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DEPARTMENT OF STATE FEB 16 1885 RECEIVED.

W. Edwards

No. 584.

Legation of the United States,
Peking December 23. 1884.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.

China and Japan.

Synopsis.

Newly appointed Minister to Japan calls at Legation and requests special letter of introduction to Minister Bingham.

No. 584

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 23. 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

His Excellency Hsu-cheng-tsu, newly appointed Minister to Japan, called at the Legation, preparatory to his departure. I had a long and interesting conversation with H.E., and dwelt with some emphasis upon the importance of maintaining good

good relations between China and Japan. H.E. said he was going to Japan with that purpose and requested me to give him a special letter of introduction to my colleague Mr Bingham with whom he was anxious to be on good relations

It gave me much pleasure to extend this courtesy. I returned the call of H.E. and was received with every kindness and attention

Have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
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No. 555.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 23. 1884.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State,

Subject.
France and China.

Synopsis.
Recent decrees from the
Throne. Emperor adverse
to peace.

No. 585.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 2-3 1884

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Among the recent decrees from the throne, there is one making certain changes in the officials. These changes could only have a personal interest. The spirit however, which animates the throne will be learned in some extracts from the decree "Some

time

"time since" says the Emperor "in consequence of the perfunctory manner in which Prince Kung and others conducted matters entrusted to their management, and because of their inability to rouse themselves to action, We were commanded by Her Majesty the Empress Dowager to deprive some functionaries of their official duties and to cause others to retire into private life or to transfer them to lower posts as the case might be; this to Prince

Li

Li, was also specially selected for introduction into the Grand Council of State."

"Just at this time, when evil habits of long standing have to be dealt with, and difficulties of many kinds to be met, there are officials both in the capital and in the provinces who are undecided in their opinions and are influenced by the fear of giving offence, while their views are neither far-sighted or comprehensive, and the fault cannot be laid at

the

the door of Yen Ching-ming alone."

"From this time forward, each and every one concerned must positively devote themselves with the utmost loyalty and sincerity of heart to the earnest consideration of matters requiring attention, and the energetic execution of the measures they have decided upon. They must take counsel together in a spirit of harmony, and unite in a common effort to meet the difficulties that have to be encountered without

the

the slightest display of carelessness or levity.

"On the present occasion the French have been extravagant in their demands and threats, and have been the first to commence hostilities. China has repeatedly treated them with courteous toleration, and has already exercised the principles of humanity and rectitude to their fullest possible extent. The conditions constituting a state of war being now complete, should anyone again

again submit any remarks on the subject of indemnity or propositions of a similar tenour he shall at once be handed over to the Board of Punishments for Correction."

The intimation in the closing sentence, that any proposal of peace, will lead to a remand to the Board of Punishments, is worthy of note, as showing the temper which animates the counsellors of the throne.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant.

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
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Sir Edward

No: 586. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 26th, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
Manners and Customs in Peking.

N: 586. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 26th December, 1882.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D. C.

Sir,

As a vivid and picturesque illustration of social life in Peking, I send you a leading article from the North China News. 1/586.

The incident referred to in the lines italicized, occurred, I presume, to Sir Harry Parkes. That distinguished gentleman detailed to me in conversation, some time since, a circumstance in his own experience, almost identical with what is

here

here written.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Inclosure.

1. Extract from the North China News.

Inclosure.

Extract from the North China News.

EVERY now and then, as the years roll on, an impression arises among foreigners that at last a decided step is on the point of being taken in the direction of progress by the Chinese Government. How these successive impressions come into existence is very difficult to say. Generally, however, some amiable quidnunc in the North starts a rumour that a railway is to be made without loss of time, or that the Peiho is to be opened to steam navigation as far as T'ungchow, or that certain mysterious negotiations are going on between the Viceroy of Chihli and some one or other of the amateur diplomatists who hover round his Excellency, which will soon burst upon an astonished world in a very startling shape. Hope tells her flattering tales, and the well-informed authority in the North does his best to keep our interest alive. Perhaps it is as well that this should be so. Such rumours form a pleasing distraction from the dead level of daily life, and furnish harmless topics of conversation for the light-hearted gentlemen whose daily avocations lie between the Comptoir and the Club. But hitherto, we fear, the rosy prophecies of our politicians have been unfulfilled. The extension of the telegraphic system after the Russian embroglio was unquestionably a most encouraging sign, and has lent colour to many of the late rumours respecting an early commencement of the railway system in the North. These rumours have, however, been very seriously exaggerated, and it is desirable that our readers should clear their minds of any impression that may exist that railways are on the point of being introduced. We write this in full knowledge of all that has been said upon the subject: how that the Viceroy has been commanded to begin operations forthwith, and that German engineers have arrived at Tientsin, and that the plant is already on its way out from Germany, and Heaven knows what beside. It is not to discourage the friends and advocates of progress in China that we warn them not to place confidence in all they hear, but rather to save them from undue discouragement on finding that matters are not moving one-tenth part as rapidly as they have hoped and wished. The Viceroy of Chihli has not the authority to carry out all he may himself desire, and we believe that a certain impatience with him, which is often felt by foreigners, is simply the result of very much too high an estimate of his power in the country. Li Hung-chang is not the "virtual ruler of China," as so many misinformed persons have called him: he is simply a Viceroy among other Viceroys, and from a variety of circumstances the most influential of the Viceregal College, but he is no more. His power in matters connected with the internal administration of China is not prëeminent. The power resides in Peking, and it is to the *Non possumus* of this power that Li Hung-chang must bow. In it and in it alone, as long as the present state of things continues, is to be found whatever promise or potency there may exist for future developments; and it is beyond controversy that, for this reason, the outlook is by no means bright. Do not let us deceive ourselves. The policy of the Chinese Government to-day is not in favour of progress, but tends in the opposite direction. We must not be misled by the tone prevailing among the more intelligent of the Chinese with whom we come into contact here. Did it rest with such as they—men who live in a handsome foreign town, with clean streets, brilliant lights, and well-appointed houses, men who are in daily intercourse with foreigners, who have cultivated business habits, and who know the value of time—we should have had railways in China years ago. There is not a silkman, or a piece-goods dealer, or a banker in Shanghai who would not appreciate the convenience of being able to go to Soochow in the morning, transact his business leisurely, and come back by the evening train. But it is not with such men as these that the question of progress rests. It rests, unhappily for China, with men who are sunk and steeped in an apathy that is unnatural and swinish. To be able to form an idea of this apathy it is necessary to witness it in the disgraceful city where it flourishes in its luxuriance. To see the present policy of Chinese statesmen in a concrete form it is necessary to see Peking. No other sight will convey any adequate idea of it to the mind. We doubt whether there is a bog-village in all Ireland so savage, so foul, so God-forsaken in its filth. Huge open cesspools, full of fermenting ordure that spreads its stench broadcast through the streets, line the thoroughfares. They are the most dangerous of man-traps, and a member of the Diplomatic Corps had a terribly narrow escape of suffocation alive in one not long ago—a fact which, when brought to the notice of the Yamên by the Minister on his arrival, was received by that body with callous and insulting indifference. Lagoons of stinking and discoloured slush lie unheeded along the main roads of the city, and at every few yards there are sights to be seen, exhibitions of bestial and unmentionable grossness, which would make a respectable savage blush. The Yamên in which the representatives of civilised and friendly Powers are compelled to

transact diplomatic business is a sordid wooden shed, in which no commonly humane man would stable a cow, bitterly cold in the winter, where Ministers and interpreters have nothing to sit upon but ricketty stools without backs, and where every means is employed to delay, and if possible to prevent, the introduction of business subjects. Nothing that can be devised to make the position of foreigners odious and intolerable is forgotten by the filth-loving, stench-enjoying, cesspool-cherishing mandarins of the Chinese Emperor—men, be it remarked, who, apart from their natural familiarity with all these horrors, and apathy respecting the dignity of their own Capital, have an honest and hearty contempt for foreigners as "barbarians." Barbarians! Conceive, if possible, a spavined donkey despising a winner of the Derby, or a beggar whose whole wealth consists of twopence half-penny and a ragged shift imagining himself a more elegant and polished personage than Beau Brummel. No less violent absurdities will suggest any idea of the insane conceit which prompts the ignorant and dirty denizens of Peking to despise a European. Yet it is only a few weeks ago that a frank and friendly official who does not live at the Capital said to a foreign Minister, "There is not a mandarin of rank in Peking who would not feel disgraced if your Excellency were to cross the threshold of his house!" Such is the estimate in which foreign gentlemen of rank and culture are held by the dirty grandees of China, and the fact may safely be left to stand upon its own merits without further comment from us. Such are the men in whose hands lies the power of giving to or withholding from the Chinese people the inestimable benefit of steam communication, and it is not necessary for us to point out the direction in which the probabilities lie. What do *they* want with railways? They have the lumbering, jolting boxes that they are accustomed to, and see no necessity for any innovation. To expect reform from such men, we say, is a chimæra, and the sooner it is dispelled the better. To compel reform, or indeed action of any sort, a severer shock will be necessary than anything that has been attempted hitherto, and the sooner it comes the better. Utilitarianism is a dangerous heresy in the eyes of the Pekingese, and though railways and other improvements are destined to come eventually—and they know it—we must not be surprised if they put off the evil day as long as they possibly can.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

No. 587.

One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, December 26th, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

Disturbances in China.

N°. 587. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 26th. December, 1884.

Hon. Fred'k. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

As an illustration of the disturbed state of public feeling in China, towards foreigners, a feeling intensified by the unfriendly relations with France, I send you a copy of a letter printed in a Hong Kong newspaper. French interests, are under the control of Russia, and I presume the Russian government will take measures to redress the injuries that have been done to the

1/587

the Catholic mission, and prevent their recurrence.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. Russell Gurney

Inclosure.

1.- Extract from the Hong Kong Telegraph.

Inclosure.

Extract from the HongKong Telegraph.

As the island of San-choan (St. John's), on account of its being the place where the illustrious Apostle to the Indies, St. Francis Xavier, died, is well known to the whole Catholic world, and in particular to the inhabitants of Hongkong, your readers will probably be interested by an account of a visit I have recently paid to the island.

Since the 21st September last our residence at San-choan had been left in the charge of a caretaker and a Christian family. Being anxious as to the action that might be taken by the Pagans from the mainland, I resolved, no matter how, to reach the island. In order to accomplish my purpose I had first to go as far as Tonquin, and it was on the return passage of the vessel, on the 18th instant, that I landed at my destination.

I had provided myself with boxes in which to pack away some of the most valuable articles and convey them beyond the reach of danger. I had also taken the precaution to carry with me some hammers and a screw driver in case it should be necessary to force open any of the doors. Alas! this care was altogether superfluous. Of the graceful monument and the beautiful chapel at the grave of St. Francis Xavier only the walls and floors remained.

The church was completely wrecked. The altar, cupboards, benches, railing, pictures, carved holy water vessels, the pavement of the chancel, the organ, &c., had all disappeared.

The apartments in the two wings flanking the church were rifled from top to bottom. Not a single piece of furniture remained. Books, bureaux, tables, chests of drawers, pictures, beds, etc., etc., had all been carried off. All that was left were some scraps of paper and fragments of the stuffing torn from mattresses.

The bell, weighing 590 lbs., given by the Empress Eugenie, and which from its pretty tower woke sweet harmony in the bay, was missing. Perhaps by this time it has been melted down into cash.

But this was not all. The rage of the Chinese Vandals carried them so far that even the windows, venetians, and doors were either broken up and thrown on the ground or else carried away. In the servants' quarters the same devastation was wrought, and the spoilers had even tried to fill up the wells.

One thing only astonished me, and that was that they had not burnt both places, but it is known that they had received orders not to exceed certain limits in their pillage.

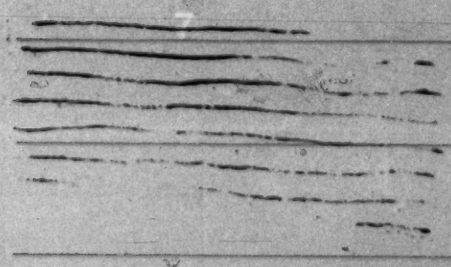
I must leave my readers to imagine the feeling of sadness which came over me as I viewed the pitiful scene. So overpowered was I that I had not the presence of mind to institute inquiries on the spot, but gave the signal to return on board. I brought the principal Christian on the island with me, and he has furnished me with the following information:—

On the 2nd October three mandarins came over from the mainland with a dozen soldiers and a hundred men of the piratical class, and landed at Sam-chao, the principal port. On learning of their arrival the inhabitants of the villages situated on the east side of the island beat their gongs and summoned their neighbours to join them in looting the Mission premises and the houses of the Christians. This work accomplished, the Mandarins mulcted the Christians in a heavy pecuniary fine, one half of which they appropriated to themselves and the other half they gave to the robbers who accompanied them. They then retired.

In this occurrence we have another proof of that "desire of the Chinese to conform their habits to those of Europeans" of which certain ultra-sinophil journals complacently tell us. We have been stationed on the island since 1860, occupying ourselves solely with the diffusion of spiritual and material blessings amongst the poor islanders, teaching them to respect their sovereign and the authorities who represent him, healing their sickness and alleviating their pains, and deciding their differences with such impartiality as satisfied all parties. For all this, which the people have received with gratitude, the proud mandarins, jealous of an authority which did not in the least conflict with theirs, in this distant island, have thought fit to punish the peaceable population.

Let God behold and judge between us and the enemies of the true civilization.

E. B.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
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Mr Edwards

No. 588. Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, December 26. 1884

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State

Subject
China and France.

Synopsis.
Enclosing newspaper
publication showing views
of foreigners resident in China

No. 588 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, December 26th 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

As an illustration of the extreme views of foreigners resident in China who sympathize with France, I send you a newspaper publication. The author has written much upon this subject and with much ability I am told that he is the

1/588

Consular

consular representative of a continental power, and takes a special interest in the propaganda of the Russian Catholic Church. He would naturally approve the extension of French influence in China as an expression of the Divine Will, that the Chinese were to be brought, even by the force of arms, within the communion of Rome.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Enclosure

Enclosure.

1. Newspaper publication

No. 588.

Enclosure

REPARATION FROM CHINA THE SOLE MEANS OF PEACE

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR.—I have hitherto trespassed on your indulgence, and that of your readers, by my letters concerning certain questions of *de jure* and *de facto* consequence for establishing that China has acted wrongfully by her violation of the French Treaty signed at Tientsin this year. My chief object in discussing the attack near Langson, and demonstrating it to be unjustifiable, has been to show the Chinese Government that it was in the wrong, and also to inspire public opinion that such was the case. It was necessary to adopt this course as a preliminary to what everyone, and especially the Governments of China and France, must desire, viz., the termination of the regrettable hostilities that have occurred, and are still likely to occur, by concessions being made by China as the wrong-doer who has caused the contention; so that France may receive satisfaction for the violation of her treaty rights, and security for their future acknowledgment, and that peace may thus be restored. This can only be effected by China submitting to the verdict of her guilt, and by her acquiescing in yielding a reparation to France for the same. Without this, the hostilities must go on to the bitter end; and thus the internal civil commotions already threatening the Imperial provinces, the hindrance of native trade caused greatly by fears fostered by the mandarins, the consequent diminution of native wealth, the impediments to foreign trade which are producing such strong dissatisfaction amongst foreign powers owing to the injury they inflict on their commerce—all these will go on accumulating to such a degree that universal public opinion will arise and condemn the wrongful disturber of peace, and will withhold all sympathy for whatever may befall China in the hostilities it has provoked.

It may be assumed as a certainty that all concerned are desirous of peace. The Governments of China and of France in their hearts would only be too glad to find a way out of the present lamentable situation. The natural voice of humanity, the preservation of their resources, and the advantages of freedom from other complications that might result from mutual hostilities, all make it too clear to thoughtful persons that an honourable means of putting an end to such dangers would be heartily welcome to both countries. The mercantile community of all nations trading with and in China must also feel the desirablity of putting an end to hostilities that are detrimental to their peaceful interests.

Can there not be found a union of influence to bring about the only circumstance that can bring back peace to these regions? It is no use to appeal merely to the material interests of trade, the vicissitudes of which are so often exaggerated for different purposes. There are current theories that hostilities which close some branches of trade open others to the gains of commerce. One must take higher grounds than asking merchants and their representatives to join in an alliance to obtain peace, merely to escape from the losses which they may be suffering to-day. At the great world's tribunal such complaints may excite compassion, but they cannot sway the decision of higher questions, such as the injured honour of a great nation, or the irrefragable principle that treaties must be observed and their violators punished. If the mercantile community in China and their friends in Europe desire to take part in the meritorious work of pacification, let it be on the question of the right and the wrong of the dispute between China and France; and if they will unite in pronouncing China to have acted wrongly in the attack on the French near Langson, they will act with a moral influence that might greatly assist in bringing conviction to the mind of the Chinese Government that it would perform the highest right by avowing its wrongfulness and tendering reparation to France for it.

There is no use in exaggerating the power of commercial public opinion on the Governments of great Powers. It is quite possible that it might be *nil*, or even distasteful, especially with the Government of China, and in the present case a one-sided influence would be of no avail. Besides this, at present French commercial interests in China are not affected to such a degree that public opinion in France would be biassed one way or the other by any impediments thrown in their way by hostilities which it considers just. British and other commercial interests in China are indeed large; but, in comparison with our interests in other parts of the world they are almost insignificant, and public opinion in Great Britain is dormant on all China questions while the Suez Canal and the impending demand of Russia for the free navigation of the Bosphorus and Dardanelles is at its own doors. It is also too far off. The representation of commercial difficulties in China and an appeal for interference in their behalf in Europe is not an affair to be quickly done. Time flies, and what is wanted is the exercise of moral influence so that it may have, if not immediate, at least speedy effect. There are others in China besides merchants. There are the Diplomatic and Consular personages whose business it is directly to appease difficulties and to act on the present occasion with even unwonted zeal for the purpose of aiding with the rights of the case. I cannot pretend to influence such elevated authoritative powers, nor to approach them with any special claim to express my own desire that they too should unite in telling the Chinese Government that, according to the first principles of international law, it is obliged to make reparation to France for the violation of the Treaty of 11th May. Unfortunately, rumour, and not altogether unfounded, has gained ground that one and perhaps two persons in a foreign legation have openly sided with China in this unhappy dispute, and have strongly asserted to the willing ears of the Peking authorities, that China is right in her conduct towards France from the very beginning of the Annam question, out of which the deplorable incident of Langson arose. With such injudicious counsellors to urge them onward in their unjust and illegal pretensions, it can be easily understood that Chinese statesmen have willingly listened to the dangerous advice that has been tendered with such disastrous effect. National interests as a watchword, conbined with a new and positive policy that is barely fledged, as the guiding star of a diplomatist's intercourse with China, can hardly justify influencing a comparatively defenceless nation like China into a war by upholding to its rulers' minds that a breach of treaty is a right,—which perverse theory is obstinately adhered to by China because a foreign diplomatist implicitly says so, and the Chinese statesman can shelter himself under such a dubious though calamitous declaration. There are times when all who are desirous of seeing China at peace with France must deprecate all such destructive teaching, from whomever it may proceed, and not shrink from reprobating its author whoever he may be. There may be a profession of friendship for China in uttering such misplaced and irrational sympathies, but it is

no true friend of China who goads her on by such tenderness with her evil deeds to consider them as good, thereby plunging her into misery. One hesitates to decide whether it is the shade of Mephistopheles or Macchiavelli which has been resuscitated at Peking, or whether both those adepts in sophistry and seduction are plying their unholy work on a new victim in the person of China.

I write with deference to the judgments of the higher powers, but I must say it appears to me that unless some of the diplomatic Ministers at Peking exert their influence on the Tsung-li Yamên, to obtain from the Emperor the admission that a fault was committed by China in the attack on the French near Langson, or a proposal from His Majesty to make suitable reparation for the wrong thereby committed, the present state of hostilities must go on until by force of arms the whole case is decided; and this means unparalleled evil to China and enough evil to all foreign peaceful interests here, to make the outcome a matter of serious concern and deliberation.

In ordinary times I am quite aware any such proffer of opinion or counsel on the part of foreign diplomatists at the Court of Peking might be considered as undue interference in Chinese affairs, but the magnitude of actual circumstances justifies a departure from the usual form of intercourse, and even were such suggestions rejected at first, the probability of their being followed at no long lapse of time would certainly merit an effort being made to gain the ear of Chinese statesmen, when such enormous interests of humanity are at stake and dependent on China listening to reason. Who is there then of exalted mind and noble generosity amongst the *corps diplomatique* who will be the moral champion to help China in overcoming the mistaken pride which holds her captive, and exposed to ruin, and from which one good resolution would liberate her?

Surely there must be some undimmed intelligence and unsullied heart amongst the Chinese statesmen whose earliest received discipline tells them that the nature of man is good. They cannot, while with their fellow men, claim exemption from the truism, "Humanum est errare," and if they are told they have done a wrong, and it is said in words and tones that show not enmity but regard for their welfare, nature must be hopelessly depraved to refuse yielding to such admonitions. I cannot yet believe such an attempt would be unsuccessful. Many of the great sovereigns of Chinese ancient history did not think it beneath their dignity to confess their guilt when it was shown to them, and to imitate such grand and magnanimous self-accusations would only augment the halo of ancestral glory and virtue which the present sovereign of China claims as his inheritance from his Imperial predecessors.

If I might presume to present myself before the Imperial Throne and address its August Occupant, I would respectfully submit to His Majesty that, clearing himself from the terrible forms of Court and tradition which bind him fast like the laws of the Medes and Persians held Darius, he would proclaim of his own sovereign will and judgment, without the advice or counsel of anyone, but, *motu proprio*, that he has determined for love of his subjects to make reparation to France for the wrongs that have been committed; and with magnificent condescension and regard for the miseries his people are suffering from hostilities, and with a sincere desire for peace, to appeal to all the foreign powers to second and perfect his endeavour to renew friendship between China and France. Could France for one moment turn a deaf ear to to such a united overture for peace? I do not pretend to know what the intentions or sentiments of the French Government are in this affair, beyond that they have been the sufferers from a serious violation of treaty on the part of China, and that the ostensible object of the mission of Mr. Patenôtre to China, and of his negotiations here, has been to obtain satisfaction and reparation for the outrage near Langson.

The question of indemnity demanded from China, which was moderate, inasmuch as it did not cover the amount of expenses entailed in France by China's violation of treaty, was one expression of the satisfaction demanded. Had China offered at the outset of the negotiations sincere expressions of regret at what had occurred, and asked forgiveness with assurances of future fidelity, it is quite possible that the question of the indemnity might have disappeared. If China made it a point of sentiment not to pay an indemnity because it would be equivalent to admitting herself in the wrong, this difficulty would cease to exist by the *de facto* plea of guilt that must be recorded as the first step in any future negotiations.

France on her side might forego a claim for an incriminatory indemnity as a pledge of her accepting the self-accusal of China in full extenuation of her fault, *as such*. Considering, however, the great expenses France has incurred in hostilities justly inflicted to avenge her insulted honour, she may rightly claim payment from China of a sum to cover such expenses as *compensation merely*, and there would be nothing derogatory in China paying such a sum, just as she paid Great Britain and France at the close of the last war. What amount of compensation France might stipulate for I do not pretend to ascertain, but I think I am not far wrong in surmising that a generous and honourable nation like France would deal with a contrite adversary unstintedly, if China left as a *sine qua non* some material guarantee in the hands of France until the pacification of Tonquin was complete, and with an engagement that it would not be interrupted by Chinese troops, irregular or otherwise. I throw myself on your indulgence to publish this long letter. The importance of its subject must plead my excuse for offering those considerations to you and your readers.

FAS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

No. 589

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States
Peking, December 26 1884

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject
Public spirit in China.

Synopsis
Giving a list of some of
the private subscriptions
for war purposes.

No. 5-89

Legation of the United States

Peking December 26th 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

As an evidence of the public spirit among the high officials developed by the condition of affairs between China and France, I send a list of some subscriptions made from private sources to aid in the prosecution of the war.

Chung How

Ichung How, taels 300,000. or
about 405,300 dollars.
Ichungli, taels 200,000. or
about 270,200 dollars.
Hsü Hsi, 150,000 taels. or
about 202,650 dollars.
Ichung Kiang, taels 150.000
or about 202,650 dollars.
Hsü Chueh. taels 100,000 or
about 135,100 dollars. In
all taels 900,000 or about
1,215,900 dollars.

Ichung How, who
heads the list, was the
Minister who negotiated
the recent treaty with
Russia. For his course in
that transaction, he incurred
the serious displeasure

of

of the throne and was sentenced to death. It is believed that his life was saved by the intervention of the foreign ministers in Peking prominent among them my predecessor Mr Seward. Since his release from prison, he has lived in retirement and disgrace. He is believed to be one of the richest subjects in China

Chung Li was formerly customs intendant at Canton. Chung Kiang held the same office at the same port. The office of customs intendant

is

is understood, under the peculiar and unfortunate system prevalent in China, to be very lucrative.

Hêu Hsi, was formerly a member of the Inner Grand Council, and Hêu Chueh Tartar General at Foochow.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Thomas Lay

Act by no file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

No. 590.

Wm Edwards

Legation of the United States

Peking, 26th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

France and China.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards a letter from the Reverend Doctor Martin, detailing a historical incident in regard to the Treaty of Tientsin.

No. 590. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 26th December, 1884.

To the
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir,

There has been some un-
discussion in foreign and un-
diplomatic circles, as to un
Article I in the Treaty of Tientsin,
negotiated in 1858 by my predecess-
or Mr. Reed. The good offices
of the United States will as the
Department will remember, un

were

were under the terms of this
Article invoked by the Yamên
in the Note of His Highness,
in a Despatch, which forms
enclosure No. 12, Despatch
No. 496 A, dated, 21st August,
1884. Article is as follows:-
Article I. "There shall be, as
"there has always been, peace and
"friendship between the United States
"of America and the Ta Tsing Empire,
"and between their people respectively.
"They shall not insult or oppress each
"other for any trifling cause, so as to
"produce an estrangement between
"them; and if any other nation should
"act unjustly or oppressively, the United
"States will exert their good offices, on
"being

"being informed of the case, to bring
"about an amicable arrangement of
"the question, thus shewing their
"friendly feelings."

The Reverend Doctor Martin,
now President of the Peking College,
and an eminent Chinese Scholar,
acted as one of the Interpreters of
Mr. Reed, while discussing the
provisions of the treaty. Doctor
Martin has written a letter giving
his recollections of the incident,
and the circumstances under
which the clause was inserted. I
transmit you a copy of this letter
for its historical value. 1/590

I send also a 2/590
comment upon Doctor Martin's
narrative

narrative by the North China Daily News.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

H. Pownall Gurney

Enclosures.

1. Doctor Martin's Letter.
2. Newspaper Extract.

To the Enclosure 1.

Editor of

North China Daily News:

Sir,

Of late much attention has been drawn to what is known as the mediation Clause in the Treaty of the United States with China. The existence of such a stipulation comes before the public as a matter of surprise. Nothing analogous is discoverable in any of the other treaties; and a reflecting mind can hardly refrain from asking the question how it came to find its way into the Article in which it now stands. Is it a piece of verbiage never intended to possess any operative force? Or is it the clever artifice of an astute diplomatist, who, unable to secure for his country those material advantages that come only in the train of victory, sought thereby to vindicate for her the moral influence of a peace maker?

That

That such was its origin and such its motive, would appear to be all but self evident; and yet the writer is in a position to affirm that the supposed scheming of an ambitious diplomacy had nothing whatever to do with this particular clause. Having assisted at the negotiation of the United States Treaty of Tientsin, in 1858, in the capacity of interpreter, he is able to give the history of the clause in question; and feels under obligation to do so, in order to set forth its true animus, and to obviate the prejudices that have grown out of a misconception of its import. Permit me then to state the case as it occurs to my memory after the lapse of twenty six years.

The draught of the Treaty as a whole was drawn up by the United States Minister, the Hon. William B. Reed, and by him submitted to the Chinese Plenipotentiaries, Kweiliang and Hwashana. Various modifications

tions were proposed by them; of which by far the most important was the insertion of this Mediation Clause. It sprang from the mind of the venerable Kieichang, and it does honour to his memory. It reads thus: "If any other "nation should act unjustly or "oppressively, the United States will "exert their good offices, on being "informed of the case, to bring about "an amicable arrangement of the "question, thus shewing their friendly "feelings." This language has been justly criticized as prejudging the case in dispute, and so preparing for the would be mediator, an unfavourable reception. Some have even found in its terms an explanation of the recent rejection of the good offices of the United States by the Government of France. But the phraseology, peculiar as it is, is not so open to objection, if it be considered as coming from the Chinese side. It is, in fact,

as

as must be apparent to every ein vlogist, a translation from the Chinese. To the Chinese mind, a foreign nation with whom the difficulties contemplated in the treaty should occur, would always be in the wrong. Mr. Reed may be reflected on for not recasting the passage, and clothing it in unobjectionable terms. That he failed to do so, I can only explain by supposing that the satisfaction with which he welcomed the proposition, inclines him to preserve it in the form in which it was originally made. In this, his diplomatic foresight appears to less advantage than that of the Chinese Statesman. To the latter it is highly creditable that they should perceive so clearly the advantages which America owes to her geographical position. - Midway between Asia and Europe, and separated from each by a broad ocean which renders her unlikely to be drawn into the political complications of either, she appears

to

to them destined by nature to be at peace with the rest of the world, and therefore fitted to sustain the rôle, be it remembered, was not assumed by them, with a view to self aggrandizement; but accepted, as the language of the clause indicates, at the instance of China.

If this were properly understood, the chances of success in her attempts at mediation would be materially improved.

(Signed) W. A. P. Martin.

Enclosure 2.

in Newspaper Extract in

North China Daily News. in

The interesting letter in which D. Martin accounts for the insertion of the Mediation clause in the American Treaty of Tientsin will, no doubt, be read with attention and pleasure. It does not, however, contain any justification for the action of Mr. Reed in so far acquiescing in the request of Kweiliang as to have permitted the Article to appear in its present form; nor, indeed, does the request itself reflect much credit upon the diplomatic acumen of the Manchu Plenipotentiary, however honourable it may be to his patriotism. We hold that it was the duty of the American Minister to have pointed out to Kweiliang the ungainly effect of the wording he suggested upon the stipulation he was on

anxious

anxious to have made, and to have insisted upon an improved form. It is difficult to believe that the latter statesman would not have recognized the flaw at once, and consented to the alteration that was necessary if his object in framing the article was to be gained at all. The primitive simplicity of the stipulation may be very characteristic of a nation unused to diplomatic intercourse with other countries, but Mr. Reed should not, we think have permitted his own Government to be a party to so very unpractical and Quixotic an understanding. As D. Martin amusingly points out, "to the Chinese mind, a "foreign nation with whom the difficulties contemplated in the treaty "should occur, would always be "in the wrong." Of course it would; but what possible justification is there in this for recognizing the

presumption

presumption in an instrument
for the terms of which both China
and the United States are equally
responsible? —

Confidential.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Everett 19.

8ND ASSISTANT SECRETARY
File
FEB 19 1885

No. 591.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 26th, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Statement of Paris newspaper that
Mr. Tricoche was the principal
adviser of the Chinese Ministers.

Confidential.

No. 591.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 26th, 1882.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I read in a Paris newspaper the following statement:

"It is stated by French journals
"that Mr. Chester Holcombe, an
"American citizen, a missionary
"and formerly Secretary of
"Legation at Peking, is the
"principal adviser of the
"Chinese Ministers, and dictated
"the responses made to the French
"Gov't after the affair at Liangson"

9

I regret extremely to see this in print, and have to regret still more the necessity for presenting the exact facts to the Department.

During this trouble with France, the Legation has been upon exceptional terms of confidence with the Yamen. This relation I endeavored to cultivate partly because I wanted, should occasion serve, to throw my influence in favor of peace and naturally because I was anxious to keep the Legation in a position where it might possibly advance American interests. While the Legation ever sought the best relations with China, it was never forgotten that the United States were on the friendliest terms with

France

France and that it would be most unfortunate if anything should happen which might disturb French susceptibilities or injure our own power for good.

At the request of the Prince I drafted a despatch addressed to the foreign representatives in which China presented her case against France. This despatch appears as enclosure 25 in my despatch N° 496 A, dated August 21st 1884. I endeavored to summarize the facts on behalf of China with moderation and dignity saying nothing that would cause greater irritation between the two powers. It was intended as a contribution towards the cause of peace,

peace, by so presenting the case of China that France would see in the temper of the Yamen a reasonable hope of negotiation, an anticipation upon my part which events have justified. The despatch was accepted by the Prince and sent as his own to the Legations. It was also telegraphed to the Shanghai press for publication.

I need not say to you how essential it was that a delicate office of this kind should be kept a profound secret. This was due to the Prince, myself, and more especially to the prestige and dignity of the Legation.

When in Tientsin, I was the guest of the Viceroy Li at a large

dinner

dinner party. Mr. Cheshire was present as interpreter, and among the guests were the American and British Consuls and other officials. To my amazement and concern, the Viceroy during the dinner began talking in a general way to the whole table about the services we had rendered the Yamen in writing despatches for the Ministers. I endeavored to parry the statement and treat it as a jest, saying that I was afraid he was doing me too much honor. He answered by saying that Mr. Holcombe, when he passed through Tientsin, had told him all about it.

Li

Li at that time was not
in favor with the Yamen, which
Mr. Holcombe well knew and
that the Viceroy would not hesitate
to belittle his opponents in Peking
by having it publicly appear
that they could not manage
their affairs without seeking
advice from a foreign Legation.

While this breach of
confidence on the part of Mr.
Holcombe would annoy the
Prince it would also annoy
the representatives of France.
We would be held responsible
by them for every intemperate
and ill-considered act of the
Yamen, even blamed for the
continuance of the war and

opposed

supposed to be inimical to French interests. I do not dautt that to a certain extent this has been the result. Pained beyond measure at the disclosure, I have hesitated before reporting it. But I cannot put aside the duty of calling the Department's attention to a grave violation of official trust.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

Sent by Mail

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 592.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 26th 1884.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.
The Fournier Memorandum.

Synopsis.
The erasures in the Fournier
Memorandum declared, by
Ma and Lo Fongloh, officials
of the Viceroy Li Hung Chang,
to be genuine.

No. 592.

Legation of the United States,
Peking. December 26th 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State
Washington D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 496 A. dated August 21st 1884, I sent you a copy of a memorandum drawn up by Captain Fournier and Li Hung Chang. In this memorandum the time of the evacuation of Tonquin by the Chinese was apparently stricken

out

out by Captain Fournier in deference to certain objections on the part of the Viceroy Captain Fournier has printed in the French newspapers a card saying that the articles purporting to have been changed by him, the lines of erasures and the initials of his name, apparently in his own handwriting, are forgeries This leaves the imputation of forgery upon Li Hung Chang or some member of his Yamen. Upon this being known in China, the following declaration was

telegraphed

telegraphed to Shanghai

"Being informed that
"Captain Fournier in a
"letter that has been made
"public denies having
"made the erasures in the
"Fournier Memorandum
"presented to L. Chung-tang
"on the 17th May last, we
"beg to state that we were
"present at the interview
"Captain Fournier had
"with H.E. on that day
"and we positively declare
"that we saw with our
"own eyes Captain Fournier
"with his own hand make
"the said erasures and
"put his initials thereto.

"We

"We remain yours obediently
"Ma Kien tsiang
"Lo Fong-lok.

The two officials who sign this statement are known to me. They belong to the household of the Viceroy. Ma was educated in France, is an expectant Taotai and has acted as French interpreter for Li. did so act during the negotiations which resulted in the Fournier convention. Lo Fong-lok is one of the Viceroy's English interpreters and is understood to possess his entire confidence.

The importance

of

of the discussion turns
upon this point. If Capt.
Fournier erased the clauses
specified, then Lehina was
not, as France contends,
under obligations to
withdraw her troops at once
from the ceded territory
France, by the act of her
envoy Capt. Fournier had
waived her demand that
the withdrawal should
take place, except under
circumstances to be
determined by further
negotiations. Consequently
the presence of the Lehinese
troops at Lungsan was
not a violation of treaty

and

and the collision with the French was a calamity for which the French were alone to blame

I have no information that will allow me to venture a useful opinion as to the merits of the controversy and I content myself with sending you the declaration of these two Chinese officials as a part of the history of the crisis

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your obedient servant,

Jno Pierce Green

Ack'd by to & file

No. 593.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 26th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject
China and the United States.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young ventures some criticisms in response to a published statement of Mr. Seward as to American influence in China.

No. 593.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 26th December, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have read with interest a publication in The North China Herald, giving the views of my predecessor Mr. Seward upon existing affairs between France and China. The opinions of so distinguished a gentleman, and one so familiar with China are worthy of attention and respect. There are some statements, however,

however, which it may not be unprofitable for me to consider in the light of my own experience.

Mr. Seward is reported to say as follows:-

"It is to me one of the deplorable
" facts attending an illiberal treatment
" of the Chinese in this country that
" our Government has abdicated in
" China, its position of influence and
" strength. The Chinese in earlier
" days sought our counsel in all
" serious matters. It is not too much
" to say that our advice was given
" in the interest of peace and progress
" ~~~~ fairly to them and fairly so
" far as all others were concerned.
" We created in China and maintain-

"ed

" ed the policy of friendly co-operation
" between all the outside Powers, which
" assured to the people of these "
" Powers and to the Powers a "
" peaceful solution of all difficulties,
" and assured China against "
" arbitrary or extreme acts on the "
" part of any of them. Our anti-
" Chinese treaty and legislation, "
" unfairly procured and unfairly
" made, have destroyed the old faith
" which the Chinese reposed in us;
" and have left us unable, as "
" between the foreign Powers, to
" sustain the old position which
" was essentially that of a friendly
" arbitrator of differences. One
" of the first acts of China after-

" we

"we had entered upon this narrow
"and suicidal course was to with-
"draw one hundred and twenty-
"students who had been sent here
"by the Chinese Government. This
"act shewed the changed senti-
"ments of China unmistakably.
"One day a Chinaman coming to
"our shores from abroad en route to
"China is refused the right to land.
"Another day a wife arriving from
"China with her husband is shut
"out. Another day a man who
"has passed for business or plea-
"sure across our boundary into
"British or Mexican territory is
"rejected when seeking to return.
"We are as unmannerly toward
"Chinamen

"Chinaman as a person would be
"who would shut the door of his
"house in the face of his friend. –
"We do precisely that. Can we
"expect their confidence, esteem
"or friendliness under such
"circumstances? I have always
"thought that good policy demands
"from us the maintainance of a
"position of influence in China.
"We do not wish to see the great
"Empire broken up or subjected to
"humiliation. There is a great
"field there upon which to win
"peaceful triumphs. The Chinese
"want railways and telegraphs;
"they want to have their great mines
"of coal and iron opened and
"worked

"worked. They want to move "
"along the channels of peaceful "
"progress and take a higher "
"position industrially as well as "
"politically. It should have been "
"our mission and in the "
"better days it appeared to be our "
"mission to sustain and "
"support them in their efforts to "
"work out their proper destiny. "
"But we abdicated our place in "
"obedience to a shallow and "
"discreditable fear of Chinese "
"labour."

I have seen nothing in ~~my~~ intercourse with the Chinese Authorities to confirm Mr. Seward's account that our anti-Chinese legislation

legislation has destroyed the
"old faith" of China in the United
States. The members of the
Imperial Government care
nothing about the Emigration
question. Emigration really
concerns a single province,
and one far away from the
capital. The Authorities do
not encourage their people to leave
home. We can desire no
restrictions more severe than
those made by the Canonese
to suppress Emigration to Peru.
This I shewed in my Despatch
No. 376. dated, March, 7th, 1884.
Nor is there any more reason
why the Chinese should have
ill-

ill-feeling towards us because of the emigration acts, than against Great Britain, because of prohibitive legislation against Chinese labour in some of the British Colonies. The Authorities quite understand the special circumstances which led to the passage of the acts of which Mr. Seward complains. They look upon the legislation as an experiment, and those with whom I have conversed, who have given any thought to the subject, anticipate the time when the demand for a cheap, docile, skilled and disciplined labour, will be so pressing on the Pacific

coast

coast; that the agitation in favour of the renewal of the Emigration will be more potent than the agitation which resulted in its abolition.

Mr. Seward speaks of the treaty, upon which the legislation against Chinese emigration was based, as "unfairly pursued and "unfairly made". I cannot see in the Archives of the Legation any evidence to justify this statement. Nor have I heard such a criticism from any Chinese official.

I can understand, as I have had occasion to say to you in discussing this subject, that in the event of our having a

question

question of moment with China, our legislation on Emigration might be advanced by the Ministers as an offset or a grievance, a reason for moderation or reserve, or I might say self-reproach in making demands. That contingency however, has never arisen, and if it did, I should regard such grievance as a diplomatic fiction.

Mr. Seward cites the withdrawal of the Chinese Students from the United States as an expression of resentment towards the United States because of our legislation. I have heard or seen nothing to warrant this inference.

The

The students were withdrawn because of the apprehensions of some of the conservative old fashioned Ministers that the boys were becoming denationalized, forgetting Chinese in learning American ideas, neglecting even their own language. While these fears were exaggerated, as events have shewn, there is reason to suppose, that if more care had been taken by the Chinese officials who had charge of this educational enterprize in America, to maintain among the students a high standard in their Chinese education, and to discourage a precipitate assimilation of American ideas and customs, at

the

the sacrifice of their own, the recall might have been averted. - Financial considerations had something to do with it, as the experiment was a considerable expense to the Government. The Department will see in my Despatch No. 54, dated, 12th December, 1884 that the Government is disposed to consider the propriety of sending another group of students and to re-establish the educational system upon a permanent basis. I take as you know a deep interest in this matter, and shall be only too glad if I can bring it about. Most assuredly, however, I have seen no reason to anticipate failure from

the

the cause assigned by Mr. Seward, namely the resentment of China towards the United States because of the emigration legislation.

Mr. Seward speaks of our having "abdicated our place in "obedience to a shallow and "discreditable fear of Chinese labour". As to the wisdom of our legislation on that subject, I have no hesitancy in saying that if Mr. Seward and myself had been members of the high assembly which passed the emigration acts, we should without doubt have acted and voted in harmony. But I do not see that decay of American influence in China, which my

distinguished

distinguished predecessor attributes
to the emigration acts. Questions
have been settled and claims paid
which have been in abeyance for
years, and in the discussion of
which Mr. Seward as well as myself
have spent many sorrowful and
weary hours. In questions of
higher diplomacy the Department
knows how far the influence of the
United States has been regarded.
Of this it is not for me to speak.
In my judgment, our Government
is stronger to-day in China,
stronger I mean, not in arms and
ships, but in the confidence and
respect of the Authorities and People,
than it has ever been. There is no

reason

reason why this should not be maintained. It is to be attributed to the policy of firmness and justice which since I have been your Minister has governed your relations with China, a policy which it has been no less my duty to accept and interpret, than my pleasure to strive to execute.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

H. Parkes

No. 594.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr. Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
The campaign in Formosa.

Synopsis.
Honors awarded Chinese soldiers
who encountered the French in
Formosa.

No: 594.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

A recent decree from the Throne awards certain honors to Chinese soldiers who encountered the French in Formosa. The Commander-in-Chief is made a noble of the 7th grade. He is also given a feather tube of white jade, a thumb ring of white jade, a dagger handle of the same material, a flint and steel, one pair of large pouches and two small

pouches

parches. Long lists of rewards are bestowed upon other officers, one receiving the supreme honor of the yellow jacket. Others are receive peacock's feathers, and are given reversionary rights to the rank of Brigadier-General when the first vacancies occur.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Winfield Scott

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Acknowledged
& file

No. 595.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking. 24th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
Troubles in China.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young reports recent troubles in the Kuangtung Province, giving a list from a Chinese newspaper of outrages and destruction of foreign property.

No. 595.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December. 27th, 1884.

To the

Honorable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

As a further reference to my despatch No. 584 dated 26th. December, 1884.

I have the honour to send you a memorandum from a Chinese newspaper summing up the results of recent disturbances in the province of Kwantung. From this we learn

learn as follows:-

1. One Catholic Chapel and several converts' houses destroyed in Tatau.

2. Two Catholic Chapels destroyed at Sun-tak.

3. Several Catholic Chapels and converts' houses pillaged and robbed in Ham-hoi, after having beaten the Christians and outraged the women, who had their clothes torn from them.

4. One hundred Catholic houses destroyed in Tai-tak.

5. Two Protestant Chapels utterly destroyed at Fatshan.

6. One Catholic and one Protestant Chapel destroyed in Shek-long.

7. Twenty three Catholic houses destroyed in Shek-long with the Chapel.

Chapel.

8. A dentist's shop in Canton is attacked because there were no idols.

9. Some Bannermen were asked if they believed in Jesus, and when they replied in the affirmative were imprisoned and threatened to be flogged.

10. A Chapel belonging to the Church of England was destroyed at Shin Ning; the preacher's wife and the wife of one of the shop keepers had their clothes torn from them and were otherwise shamefully treated.

11. The Baptist Mission was destroyed at Tsinan, and a few

shops

shops of Christians looted.

12. At Chau-Tsun the Wesleyan Chapel was destroyed.

As a consequence of these disturbances, it is said that the exodus of native Christians from this province to Hongkong and Macao has been on the increase. There are rumours of various forms of outrage perpetrated upon Christians.

Happily I am not called upon to report any interference with our own people. But these acts of lawlessness are so much to be deplored, that if it will serve the ends of good order I shall be glad to unite with

with my colleagues in any representation to the Yamên that will ensure protection to foreigners, no matter of what nationality or faith.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Read & write
Received & copied March 5 & 6
No. 596.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

PRINTED
1885

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Falling off in the tea trade.

Synopsis.

Tea culture in Assam the cause of the falling off in the tea trade of China. Growth of the opium harvest. It is supplanting tea culture.

No. 596.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1882.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

There has been much discussion recently in mercantile and official circles in China in regard to the falling off in the tea trade. The effect of this is seen in many ways, especially in its effect upon business. Inquiry shows that this is largely to be attributed to the efforts of the Indian government to develope tea culture in Assam. The success of these efforts will

be

be seen in the fact that while in 1870 England imported from Assam 10.000.000 pounds of tea, the import has steadily increased until in 1884 it is estimated at 66.664.359 pounds. While the Indian export has been advancing, that from China has been decreasing, falling off from 125.000.000 pounds in 1879 to 110.000.000 pounds in 1882. This is to be accounted for by the better methods of government which prevail in India, the adoption of modern appliances in agricultural machinery and methods of culture, and in a much more liberal commercial policy than what prevails in China.

It

It is a lamentable fact that while the growth of tea diminishes in China, the opium harvest increases. Opium gradually supplants tea. If England should lose her Indian revenues from opium, she will gain them from tea. No one can deny that this will be a sorry exchange for China. In the event of the continuance of war between China and France, one of the immediate results to be anticipated is the development of tea culture in India. As during our own war the cotton growth was transferred from the southern states to India and Egypt, so it is within the range of

probability

probability that one of the consequences of the present war, will be the transfer of the tea trade from China to India and Japan. Whether China will be able to recover it when peace comes, as we recovered our cotton trade, is very doubtful.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

T. Russell Sturgis

Inclosure in mail No 233 dated March 98. Cipher

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

No 597.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Requests a copy of Department
despatch No 233 of March 22d,
1884.

No 233 - Cipher
232 - 233

No. 597.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to request that you will have sent me a copy of your despatch numbered 233 of March 22d, 1884. I can find no record of it beyond my acknowledgment of it and the register bears no reference to the subject.

I am,
Sir,
Your

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

No 591.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 27th 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

France and China.

Synopsis

Rumour current among
the Chinese against
peace.

No 598.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 27th 1884.

Hon: Frdk T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

Referring to my despatch No 569, of date the 9th instant, I have the honor to inform you that, it is rumored here, that Kui Excellency, Li Hung Chang, memorialized the Throne suggesting that the matter pending between China and France be arranged by arbitration, upon the basis of the execution of the Tientsin Treaty, without

payment

payment of any indemnity to France. The Emperor made no reply to this memorial directly to the Viceroy, but on the same day, a decree was issued to the effect that, if any of the Viceroys or Governors of the Maritime Provinces make any proposals to the throne for peace, they would be handed over to the Board of Punishments for the adjudication of a penalty as set forth in a previous decree.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Thomas Francis

Archive No file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

under

No. 599 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Pekin, December 27. 1884

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State

Subject.

China and France.

Synopsis.

Enclosing a newspaper article
showing drift of public
opinion in China.

No. 599. Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking December 27. 1884.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No 588. dated December 26th 1884. I sent the Department a copy of a significant letter upon the troubles with France by a writer named "Fas" giving a noteworthy expression of the anti-Chinese side of the controversy. I enclose a reply from the pen of a writer who presents the case from

1/599

from a point of view friendly to China. These articles may have value, as showing the drift of public opinion among our foreign residents.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lincoln Bowring

Enclosure

1 Clipping from a newspaper

No. 599. Enclosure 1

To the Editor of the
North China Daily News.

Sir,

I have hitherto kept silence upon the question of the day, contenting myself with occasional perusal of the effusions of "Vas" and other publicists. But seeing the way in which public opinion seems to be veering round, I will take heart of grace, and now address a few word to you that are dictated by conviction as honest, at any rate, as that of the writers who take a different view.

The attack on China is so unjustifiable on the grounds given that all right minded men must feel disposed to protest against the violation of all our vaunted reverence for law and justice; but, the fact is, the real reasons have only lately been made public. This the N. C. Daily News has done. The Langson affair was a mere pretext, and in

there

there would probably have been the war whether it had occurred or not. Rightly or wrongly, the French think they can compass an Oriental Empire in Burmah, Siam, Cochin China, Cambodia and Tonquin, which will give them a position out here equal to that they have in the Mediterranean and Europe; but they cannot consolidate it without considerable Expenditure, and, indeed, found it doubtful if they could hold it at all unless they could prevent Chinese interference. A quarrel therefore was essential, first to squeeze funds out of the Chinese to pay the forces in Tonquin, and secondly to prevent the black flags getting any more assistance; and when they got their telegram that Colonel Dugenne's column had been enveigled into an ambuscade, they jumped at the opportunity. But they would have found another Excuse if that had failed them. Indeed, they had

some

some seeming ground in that, though China did not make any effective resistance to their capture of Sontai and Bachninh, and rather enabled the French to take places by withdrawing her troops. The Chinese did give the Black flags assistance in the shape of arms and money, and were continuing to do so after they had declared they abandoned their rights of suzerainty, and had assented to the Fournier treaty. France was, it turns out, utterly in the wrong in the affair it takes as its ground of offence; but the end has been gained - they have got (with popular feeling at home to back them) into a quarrel with China, and will, unless foreign countries interfere, or they have trouble at home, be able to make their own terms. China is, and so long as it keeps up its present system of federate states will be, a helpless, and the French have only to go attacking first one viceroy, then another -

another, to lay the whole seaboard prostrate.

If China had massed her whole fleet, paid some foreigners to give their crews confidence that they would not be deserted, and attacked the French vigorously, it was possible they might have beaten them; but they seem not to have an idea of helping each other, and the absurd attempt to maintain a fleet and army at each point, able to resist the concentrated French forces, is crushing them in the enormous waste of funds it involves. I see no hope for them, and fresh for worse times to follow both for them and foreigners in China when the war is over. — When you have the nation - justly angry both with their inefficient rulers, and the iniquitous aggressions they have had to submit to at the hands of foreigners worn out with wars -

alarms

alarms, ruined by the disturbance of trade and the pressure of war taxation on rise in reckless despair, and is without definite end or object attack whatever they first come across, foreigners or officials, then we people in the outports will really be in danger.

The net result, so far, is that all the English communities in China have been put in peril of their lives: those of Keelung, Tamsui, Wenchow and Pagoda anchorage recalled to the minds, our trade generally upset or endangered, and without so far any gain to France. If things go on, every community in China will have to clear out or run the risk of a repetition of Alexandria. The authorities have behaved splendidly (thanks to Li Hung chang), and wonderful order has been maintained. So soon as they lose their power we are in a bad way; for anti foreign feeling is running high, we neither help them

them nor allow them to help themselves; Even those writers who take their side generally write as if they rather sympathizes with their enemies. I hate the word neutrality. Men have no right to interfere in others' quarrels unless asked, but the common interests of humanity demand that no one should stand by passive and allow wrong to be done without attempting to prevent it.

Yours &c

Signed) Nemesis.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

N: 600 One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
The contest at Foochow.

Synopsis.
Alleged cruelty of the French at
Foochow. Defense of their action.
Extract from the Hongkong Telegraph.

No. 650. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 27th December, 1884.

Hon. Fred'k. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C

Sir,

So much has been printed in the European press as to the alleged cruelty of the French at Foochow under Admiral Courbet when he bombarded the arsenal and sank the Chinese fleet, that you may have an interest in reading an elaborate defense of their action by a writer friendly to France. I take the narrative from the "Hong Kong Telegraph". It is apparently written

in

in answer to the severe censures which "The London Times", whose correspondent witnessed the bombardment and the naval contest, visited upon the French admiral.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Harry Parkes

Inclosure.

1. Extract from N°. 868 of the Hong Kong Telegraph.

THE "TIMES" CORRESPONDENT AND THE FIGHT ON THE RIVER MIN.

(BY A FOOCHOW CORRESPONDENT.)

For some years past the foreign newspapers in China have persistently called the attention of their readers to the abusive, inaccurate and misleading statements of the English press regarding passing events and matters in general in Far Cathay, and, giving the writers the benefit of the doubt, have placed it to the account of their ignorance. It must, however, by this time be pretty plain to all who read the accounts in the English papers —particularly the *Times*—of the Franco-Chinese *embroglio*, that they have been written with the express purpose of misleading the English public and forwarding the interested designs of vicious men. The local and provincial press have taken their cue from the *Times* and other papers which send out special correspondents to concoct sensational paragraphs, wherein one grain of truth is scattered amongst a bushel of falsehood, from which *olio* each Editor dishes up a *recherchd rechauffe* to suit the particular views of his readers. The truth of this is obvious if we are to judge by the telegrams sent by the *Times'* special correspondent in China *re* the operations of the French on the River Min. To those who know anything of the matter, it is manifest that this gentleman must have allowed his imagination to run riot with a vengeance; for, with the exception of the fact that the French commenced hostilities at 2 p.m. on the 23rd August, the whole of the telegrams forwarded by him are a tissue of the most glaring, outrageous falsehoods, without even the slightest particle of common-sense to redeem them, and his misstatements are so glaringly transparent that even the most casual reader can see through them. It is now well known that "our special's" reports from Tongking were far, very far, from being the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. To such an extent was his perversion of the truth carried, that the French were averse to granting him any facilities to go to the front, even had he particularly wished to risk his precious life there. The risk indeed was unnecessary, for he could write his reports just as well twenty miles away. Of this remarkable fact he cannot have failed to convince the readers of the *Times*. His graphic descriptions of what took place at the Anchorage, at the Mingan forts, and other parts of the river, but especially at the Arsenal, and of the several little things that never happened, prove that he is not an ordinary specimen of poor humanity, but a *rara avis*, a phenomenon, in fact.

The question then arises—To serve what end, or particular purpose, were these most vicious and garbled telegrams sent? Was it pure "cussedness," to shew the man's ill-will to the French? Hardly that, for no one would risk his reputation as a correspondent and incur general obloquy for such an object, for he must have known that the truth would be sure to leak out, even though there were no other special correspondent present. Was this *olio* cooked up to suit the particular bias of his employers, the proprietors of the *Times*? If so, what a glorious organ of truth the *Times* must be! I had previously been credulous enough to believe that whatever the *Times* might be it was at least truthful, and could be relied upon by the public for a faithful, unbiassed account of passing events in the different parts of the world. If all the other special correspondents of that journal draw on their imaginations for sensational paragraphs as freely as its "special" in China, the value of the information supplied to the public by the *Times* must indeed be immense. If we may be allowed to judge from the sensational leading articles in the *Times* headed "France and China" and "The bombardment of Foochow" (?), which, for truthfulness (?), are a splendid example of how far the Editors of that paper will go to suit their own particular and biassed views, even the telegrams from their "special" cannot in any way justify the infamous lies printed about Admiral Courbet, a brave, just and honorable man, and the brave officers and crews under his command, who are, as they deserve to be, honored and respected by the French nation, bravery and honor being the only royal road to the hearts of the French people and to preferment. It is to be regretted that it is not the same in England, but the time is coming, and will shortly arrive, when it will be so.

The mendacity of the press in England, more particularly of the *Times*, which has taken the lead in misrepresenting affairs in China, is in great measure the prime cause of the present troubles between the French and the Chinese, and judging from the articles written, the press generally in England is either in complete ignorance of the actual state of affairs in China, its Government, administration, and matters in general, or is led away by the vicious, mendacious reports from our highly respected (?) representatives of trade, *i.e.* ministers, consuls and consular officers, whose gross maladministration of their office has been a crying evil in the country. Immediate and extensive reform is needed if we wish to develop our trade in China. I will try to indicate in a future letter some of the abuses; their name is legion. The old adage that out of evil cometh good has proved true even in this Franco-Chinese *embroglio*. It has taught the Chinese officials that they cannot insult the French and do just as they like with impunity, even if the English allow them to do so; and also that the trouble has not only not interfered with the export trade, but has given an impetus to the imports—arms and munitions of war, which is all that can be expected or looked for so long as that ever-increasing brood of vultures, the Foreign Customs, that "excrescence on the body politic of this country," as Commodore Schufeldt very justly called it, are allowed to sap the life-blood out of all foreign trade, and practise extortion on ships, steamers, and private merchants, aided and assisted by British trade representatives; and judging from the zeal they display in the service, they receive, no doubt, in some indirect way, some *quid pro quo*. The writer has good authority for saying that we poor English are likely to have another thing to thank the French for, *in re* the doing away with this gross imposition on foreign trade, we who have been running with the hare and hunting with the hounds during this little trouble. For the smallest favors in this way let us be truly thankful.

But to return to "our special." It has suggested itself to my mind that his sensational telegrams were part and parcel of a premeditated plan with his employers to send nothing that could be construed favorably for the French. With a few garbled telegrams and the Editor's paralogisms, it was an easy matter to write the articles which were so grossly insulting to the French, and so create a diversion to forward the political views of the *Times*. Such things have been done; it is to be hoped it was not done for such a purpose in this instance. It must be far from pleasant to Admiral Dowell, to think that he gave full credence to "our special's" pretensions, and allowed him to take up his quarters on board H.M.S. *Champion*, and use, or rather abuse, that 'vantage ground to vilify Admiral Courbet and the officers and crews of the fleet under his command. The position of the *Champion* at the Anchorage was prominent, and from her decks the whole of the action of the 23rd of August could be plainly seen; therefore, there is not the slightest excuse for the malicious telegrams sent.

Let us now take a retrospective glance at the situation before hostilities commenced, and the respective strength of the opposing forces; in fact, write a little history for the future. The Chinese had a fleet of eleven foreign-built vessels, equipped as war ships, armed with Krupp, Vavasseur, and Armstrong guns,

machine guns, and all the latest approved death-dealing instruments of warfare. Two of these vessels were built by Sir W. Armstrong, and, in addition to small and machine guns, each mounted one immense gun. One shot or shell from either of these guns could have sunk any of the vessels of the French fleet. Properly handled, these two ships could alone have made the position too hot for the French. I am not alone in this opinion, for one of the senior officers of H.M.S. *Champion* expressed these views on several occasions to different persons. The Chinese had also twelve Canton war-junks, each mounting at least nine guns, five of which could be fired from one side. Each of these vessels was extra manned with Canton desperadoes, and carried stinkpots, and liquid-fire bamboos. That this portion of the Chinese force was not to be despised, is proved by the fact that the greater part of the shots that struck, and several times hulled, some of the French fleet were fired from these junks. On the south, inside the Anchorage, there were thirty large-size Foochow fishing junks, armed, *a la Chinoise*, with gingalls, stinkpots and liquid-fire bamboos, and manned with over thirty desperadoes, armed with knives and spears, who were credited with the power to remain under water for hours. This horde of cut-throats was held in reserve, and should any of the French fleet become disabled, they were to swoop down on them and make short work of the unfortunate crews. And there is not the slightest doubt that had any such casualty occurred they would have performed their part of the programme without the slightest mercy. In addition to this, all the large boats belonging to the foreign-built Chinese fleet were converted into torpedo boats, as well as the whole of the steam-launches belonging to the fleet, Arsenal, and opium business, private Chinese were armed to deal death and destruction amongst the French fleet, and innumerable junks and cargo-boats were fitted up as fire-boats, some with straw saturated with kerosine, others with powder, and others with dynamite and gun-cotton. It will thus be seen that the death-dealing forces afloat were ample to annihilate the French fleet. On shore on Losing Island, in addition to the two forts mounted with Chinese guns, on the top of the hill close to the Pagoda they had three Krupp guns and two 12-pounder field-pieces, and in several of the Chinese houses guns of small calibre were mounted, to take pot-shots with occasionally. On Mamoi Hill, and on the hills at the back of the Arsenal, Krupp and Vavasseur guns were mounted (some of very large calibre) where they could be placed to advantage to fire on the French fleet. Guns were also mounted on the lower end of Nantai Island, at the mouth of the creek just below the Customs. An earth battery was thrown up on the 21st and finished on the 23rd in time to take part in the action. It has been computed that, counting only the broadside and pivot guns of the fleet, over 152 guns were ready to open fire on the French, and large bodies of soldiers were stationed in different encampments, ready to take part in the fray should their services be required, or the French attempt to land. Another thing must be taken into consideration. The Chinese had the Arsenal, and roads open to bring forward any fresh supplies should they be required, and there were also the large and heavily armed forts throughout the river below. From the foregoing statement of the Chinese forces afloat and on shore, considerably under the actual, your readers will be able to form a pretty fair idea of the work Admiral Courbet took in hand when he undertook to make reprisals on the River Min. The French fleet under his command on the 21st of August, comprised, in all, seven vessels—the *Duguay Trouin*, a 1st-class cruiser, the *Villars* and *D'Estaing*, corvettes, the *Volta*, a sloop flying the Admiral's flag, and the gunboats *Vipere*, *Aspic* and *Lynx*, besides two small torpedo boats.

On the 21st of August Admiral Courbet sent for the Captain of the Chinese corvette *Yang Woo* and informed him that he (Admiral Courbet) should commence hostilities at 2 p.m. the next day. Owing to strong gales of wind prevailing on the 22nd, Admiral Courbet informed the Captain of the *Yang Woo* that he should not commence hostilities before 2 p.m. on the 23rd. It will thus be seen that no advantage was taken, no sudden onslaught made by the French. The Chinese were informed of the exact time when firing would commence. If impartial readers will take into consideration the long odds in favor of the forces opposed to him, they will, no doubt, think that Admiral Courbet carried his ideas of honor to excess. One notification would have satisfied the most scrupulous on the point of honor. It will be seen from the foregoing that Admiral Courbet intended to commence with the seven vessels and two torpedo boats. Not one of his fleet could withstand the shot of either of the Armstrong boats, nor could he be at all certain of any other vessel coming. The writer has been informed from the most reliable sources that the Admiral had no communication with any of the vessels outside for three days. Luckly the *Triomphante* appeared on the scene, and she came steaming up past the entire shipping just as the fight commenced.

I have given you an account of the fight as seen and confirmed in every detail by several eye-witnesses, and by the officers of the French fleet since. The French opened fire at exactly 2 p.m., and in seven and a half minutes the fight was over so far as the Chinese foreign-built fleet was concerned. In five minutes more the whole of the war-junks were totally destroyed, and in fifteen minutes the fight was altogether over so far as the forces afloat were concerned. It may be, that in the excitement unnecessary shots were fired by the excited French gunners, for it must be remembered that they were still under the galling fire from the forts and masked batteries, and the heavy guns from the hills, with which pot-shots were taken at the French fleet; and it was only by carefully watching the smoke from the guns that they could ascertain where they were posted, and return the fire and silence them. In forty minutes firing ceased, except at intervals when it became necessary to silence some gun. The gunners of the French fleet cannot be too highly praised for their skill. They rarely required to take a second shot when the object to be fired at could be seen. It may be that pieces of exploding shells struck some of the Chinese houses, in the same way as they struck foreign houses on Manoi Point and Losing Island; but there was not a single instance of any Chinese houses or villages having been fired at deliberately. The Customs premises excepted, those buildings received several shells from the *Triomphante*, and would have been destroyed but for pilot Oeltze, who informed the captain of the vessel that foreigners lived there. The Customs officers are entirely to blame for this, as they kept the Chinese flag flying, and the captain of the *Triomphante* was a stranger in the port. There would have been but few lives lost in the foreign-built Chinese fleet had not the brave (?) commander-in-chief sent on board each of the vessels on the morning of the 23rd a number of Chinese soldiers who knew nothing of ships, and when the officers and crews took to their boats and the water, these poor men were left to bear the brunt of the fight. The simple facts are, that neither officers nor crews wished or intended to fight, nor would they have stayed by the ships at all but for the frightful alternative—death at once on shore. They therefore chose the lesser of two evils, and made all their preparations accordingly. They could not leave without firing their guns once, so they had to take their chance of the first fire of the French. For days before the fight each man had his piece of board or wood ready to assist in keeping him afloat in the water. The only boats

they had were always kept ready, and the officers and crews had their best clothes and valuables on shore weeks before the fight. All those who escaped the first fire of the French with their lives, and were not disabled, took to the water immediately after firing off their guns. Some even did not fire the guns before clearing out. This has all been made public, and many wonderful things have happened in Foochow since the 23rd of August. Many of the officers and sailors who were killed in the battle, or drowned when their vessels were sunk, have come back to life again! You may meet two of the brave captains who were reported to have gone down with their vessels fighting to the last! With but few exceptions, those that were killed by the first French fire were the poor soldiers; they were the victims.

To shew that both the English and Americans were in accord with the French, I will relate the following circumstance:—When the disabled French torpedo boat drifted past the neutral shipping with the officer in command and some of the crew covered with blood, the whole of the crews of both the English and American ships took to the rigging and cheered the French. "Our special" says nothing of this, nor does he say one word about the number of lives saved by the U. S. S. *Enterprise*, or of those saved by the merchant shipping, yet many *were* saved by these vessels. It is not to be expected that he would give the French any credit for saving any of the poor devils, yet it is a fact that they did. They sent off their boats, took the men on board, and French doctors dressed their wounds just the same as they did in the case of the wounded of their own crews. Over forty of the Chinese were welcomed on board the French fleet, and treated, fed and clothed the same as the French sailors. It is now proved that the loss of life from the Chinese fleet was not one-tenth of what was first reported.

Had the Chinese had even one man of ordinary administrative abilities to organize some decided line of action, what a different tale would have to be told about the French operations on the River Min! Not one officer or man on board the Chinese foreign built fleet had ever before seen a shot fired in anger. The officers were boys taken from school in Hongkong by the Director of the Arsenal, and were crammed with foreign ideas, but when they were given command they returned to the Chinese old customs under orders from the high officials. The men had been picked up from the river boat population, and rarely went from port to port without being sea-sick. The poor fishermen would not be taken, for they could not afford to pay for the berth. The Chinese Admiral and commander-in-chief is a very clever Chinese scholar, no doubt, well up in the classics, but something more than scholarship is required in a commander-in-chief, if he is expected to have any success in arms against a foreign Power like France, with Admiral Courbet in command. It was pretty evident that this was his idea also, for when the fight commenced he tucked up his gown and took to his heels for Kushan monastery, without even a body-guard, to dedicate burnt offerings for the success of the fleet and forces under his command, but his offerings had apparently little effect. This strategic movement to the rear does not in the slightest degree affect the name or standing of this brave (?) commander-in-chief of the Chinese forces in the Fukien province. His report of the conflict was accepted and approved of. He *did* sink two French war ships; the neutral war and merchant vessels interfered greatly with his operations, and but for that and two or three other little things, none of the French rebels would have left the port alive! What a mercy for the French that these little things were forgotten! One brave commander craves that he may be punished, also that he may have the opportunity of meeting the French again; he is now fully prepared. (?) Not one single Frenchman shall escape him. Notwithstanding all this bombast, it will scarcely be credited that a small French gunboat visits Sharp Peak nearly every day to deliver and receive Admiral Courbet's telegrams.

Such are the men who hold the highest commands in the fleets and forces throughout China. These are the famous Generals who organize, drill and discipline the fleets and forces that are to strike terror into the hearts of the French rebels! Vauban was simply a fool, compared with these men, in the art of fortifications; they suck all these things in with their mother's milk. There is one thing certainly in which they excel, beyond all other nations. They can fabricate paper forts, fleets, soldiers and munitions of war, and what is more, get well paid for them. The English press has materially assisted these men by extolling the qualities of fabulous numbers of soldiers that never existed except on paper.

Is it to be expected that China will have the slightest chance of bringing the present troubles to an end unless she pays exactly what the French demand, and agrees to everything they wish, yea even to giving up the island of Formosa? It is a long way from Formosa to Peking, and it is better to let the French rebels have that island than have them come up and disturb the Imperial Government at Peking. Needs must where a certain well-known gentleman drives, as the proverb says. The French have Formosa now, and it is only a matter of a few months before the Hill tribes will join with them to drive out the Chinese, whom they detest. And long may the French keep the island of Formosa, for were they ten times as bad as all the Colquhouns in the world try to make them out to be, they would still be infinitely superior to the very best of the Chinese the writer has had the good fortune to meet during a thirty-one years' residence in China.

Consular copy
No. 601.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

Legation of the United States.
Peking, December 29th 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Acknowledging despatches
Nos 353, 354, 356 & 357
and Circular letter dated
October 27th 1884. Despatch
No 355 not received.

No 601.

Legation of the United States,
Penang, December 29th 1884.

Hon: Frederick T Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the following dispatches from the Department, viz:—

No 353 dated October 23d 1884
No 354 dated October 27 1884
No 356 dated October 31st 1884
No. 357 dated October 31st 1884
also
Circular letter dated October 27th 1884 in reference to National Cotton Growers
Association

communication to the consul
at New Orleans February
10th 1855.

Your despatch No 355
has not been received.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant

Edmund Ruffin

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

No 602.

Legation of the United States
Peking, December 29th 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject.
National Cotton Planters Convention
to be held at New Orleans.

Synopsis
Notifying the matter to
the notice of the Chinese
Government.

No 602.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 29th 1884.

Hon: Fredk T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington DC.

Sir:—

As a further reference to your circular dated October 27th, 1884, in reference to the convening of an international Cotton Planters Convention, to be held in New Orleans, February 10th, 1885, I have the honor to say that the question will be submitted to the Tsung-li-Yamên. Your circular dated October 27th only arrived at the Legation December 28th — two months on the way.

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It will, therefore, be impossible for delegates to leave China in time to reach New Orleans in February. I have an interview with the Prince on Wednesday and shall urge him to telegraph the Chinese Legations in Washington to send a representative, but do not anticipate the success of any suggestion. This is the only feasible way by which I can hope to carry out your instruction.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 603. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 29th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwarding a despatch from the
Consul at Ningpo to the Legation
on the Likin question.

N°603. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 29th December, 1884.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you herewith for your information a copy of a despatch received from our Consul at Ningpo, in reply to my despatch forwarding him an extract from your N° 344, of September 30th, 1884, on the likin question. 1/603

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

Inclosure.

Inclosure.

1. Mr. Stevens to Mr. Young. N: 73
of December 5th, 1882.

Inclosure.

Mr. Stevens to Mr. Young.

N°-73. United States Consulate

Ningpo, December 5th-1884.

Hon. John Russell Young

U.S. Minister, etc.,

Peking.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of your despatch N°-69 dated Nov. 25th-, 1884, forwarding me an extract from a letter received from the Department of State, expressing its views upon the question of likin which I had the honor to bring to your Excellency's attention.

Permit me to add in

this

this connection that the Chinese Authorities here have virtually allowed the orders they issued upon this question which were the basis of the controversy to become a dead letter. They have not, I believe, enforced its provisions. If so, no complaint has been made to this Office.

I am, Sir,

Your obed't servant

(Signed) Edwin Stevens

U.S. Consul.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

2 Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, 30th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Resolution of the Foochow General Chamber of Commerce expressing their appreciation of Admiral Davis' action to ensure safety in the Foochow settlement during the late hostilities.

No. 604. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 30th December, 1884.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you herewith for the information of the Department a copy of a despatch received from Rear Admiral John Lee Davis, dated December 9th, 1884, and also my reply to the same 1/604 2/604.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
[signature]

Inclosures:

Inclosures.

1. Admiral Davis to Mr. Young.

N°7/1884. December 9th, 1884.

2. Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

N° 11. December 30th, 1884.

Inclosure 1.

Admiral Davis to Mr. Young.

U.S.F.S. "Trenton" (2d Rate)

Nagasaki, Japan.

Dec. 9th, 1884.

Honorable

John Russell Young,

&c, &c &c

Peking.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose herewith, for the information of the Legation, a copy of resolutions passed by the Hoochao General Chamber of Commerce.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

(Signd) John Lee Davis.

Rear Admiral

Comdg.

Comdg. U.S. Naval Force on Asiatic Station.

Foochow General Chamber of Commerce

19th November, 1882.

Sir:

I have the honor to inform you that, at a special General Meeting of the Members of this Chamber, held on the 18th inst. the following resolutions were carried unanimously:

1st "That this Chamber desires to place on record its high appreciation of, and gratitude for, the prompt and vigorous action taken by Admiral J. L. Davis, Commander-in-Chief of the U.S. Naval Forces in China, to ensure the safety of life and property in this settlement during the perilous times in which we have lately lived"

2d

2d "That the Chairman be requested to forward to Admiral J. L. Davis a copy of the foregoing resolution, and, at the same time, to ask him to be good enough to convey to the Commanders and officers of the various vessels which may have been on the Foochow Station during the past few months, the thanks of this Chamber for the energy and courtesy they have, one and all displayed.

I have the honor to be,

Sir

Your most obedient servant

(Signed) John Odell

Chairman.

To Admiral J. L. Davis.

Commander in Chief,

U. S. Naval Forces in China.

Inclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

No. 11. Peking, 30th December, 1882.

Rear Admiral

John Lee Davis

&c, &c &c

U.S.F.S. "Trenton"

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of November 29th, December 5th and December 9th, 1882, together with its inclosure.

It is a gratification to the Legation to know that it was within the power of the Admiral to render so essential a service for the protection of foreign interests at Hoorhar.

I am,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant

(Signed) Tho Rumbold Young

Ans'd. Ft also under date 1885.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 605.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 30th December, 1884.

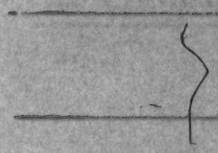
Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Status of James N. Graydon.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards correspondence with Consul at Canton, concerning status of Mr. Graydon an ex Naval officer of the United States, now employed by the Chinese in defensive measures at Canton.



No. 605. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 30th December, 1884.

To the

Honorable Fred'k. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose a Despatch from Consul Seymour of Canton in reference to the Status of James N. Graydon, Esquire, formerly an officer in the naval Service of the United States Government.

1/605

I trust that my instruction

2
605.

instruction to Mr. Seymour as regards the status of Mr. Graydon will meet with the approval of the Department.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Edward Young.

Enclosures.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

No. 93 December 11th, 1884.

2. Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour.

No. 112. December 30th, 1884.

No. 93. Enclosure 1.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

December, 11th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you of some facts in connection with the torpedo defences of Callao river, and to ask for instructions in regard to the case of an American citizen, named James W. Grayson, who came here last Summer in the U.S.S. "Palos", as Lieut.t of the U.S. Navy; which office he is said to have resigned, and has relinquished official duties, to engage in the execution of contracts (commencing in August, and continuing to the present time) for the excellent system of torpedo defence, (of which he is the inventor,) admirably adapted to defence of rivers and harbours.

All officers of the U.S. Navy acquainted with Mr. Grayson's system of applying torpedoes to defence of rivers and harbours

harbours concur in pronouncing it a valuable invention; and his inventive genius has also been displayed in other inventions.

An Englishman, named Betts, has been doing a thriving business in putting down torpedoes, for the Chinese Authorities, near and below Whampoa and Canton; and it is understood that the obstructions that were placed in the Canton River last summer were partly in conformity with Mr. Betts' plan of defense; which seemingly interfered with navigation.

Mr. Graydon's system enabled the Chinese authorities to open or close, at short notice, numerous lines of torpedoes, to admit friendly ships, and exclude hostile ships, at pleasure, without permanently obstructing navigation.

Mr. Graydon has, through various channels of influence, unsuccessfully attempted to obtain recognition and

Encouragement

encouragement from the high Chinese officials, including the Viceroys at Tientsin and Canton; but in the early part of August last, the Viceroy's interpreter called upon me for some information about Mr. Grayson and his invention; and a few days later it was rumored that the Lieutenant, then acting as Executive officer of the U.S.S. "Palos", had resigned; and entered into torpedo contracts.

It is believed he has demonstrated the efficiency of his system of torpedoes; and has already made a fortune out of his contracts.

His wife and his brother are expected about this time from the United States; and he expects soon to be putting in a similar system of defences at the Min River, for the defence of Foochow.

The arrival of his wife may serve to keep Mr. Grayson out of dissipation, to which he is strongly addicted

addicted. The arrival of his brother enables the Ex-Lieutenant to put his business and money into the hands of a careful and experienced man; who will also exert a salutary influence socially.

I have been careful to supply you with these particulars, in order that you may have a correct appreciation of the case, respecting which I desire instructions.

Sudden prosperity has made this Mr. James W. Grayson act foolishly and indiscreetly; and it is a wonder that he has not yet found himself in a bad scrape; for he has been, during the past three months, handling money to the amount of probably a quarter of a million of dollars; and has been much of the time more or less intoxicated; and, when under the influence of liquor, is bragging of his exploits and success; and alienating and threatening his highly respected and respectable

residents

residents (foreigners); and behaved, in a defiant and obstreperous manner.

An American resident Mr Bryant, of the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs, who introduced Mr Grayson to the Canton Club as a visitor on the 2nd day of November last, felt compelled, in self respect, to cancel the introduction three days later, in consequence of scurrilous abuse against two very highly esteemed members of the Club and community, the Commissioner (Mr Woodruff), and Deputy Commissioner Ohlmer; Superior Officers of Mr Bryant.

Mr Grayson subsequently applied to me to restore his privileges at the Club; which I declined to do, as he had used abusive and threatening language against two members of the Club; which was established and maintained for social purposes, and not for personal quarrels. I further more declined, as I could not, in any

manner

manner, be identified with one, who might and might not be regarded as having violated neutrality between China and France.

I would like to be informed whether we are to consider the existing troubles between China and France as war.

And, in the event of Mr Grayson falling into the hands of the French, in his journeyings to and fro, between Canton and Hong Kong; or between Canton and Foochow; or while superintending his torpedo business; how far can any U. S. Consul or Consular officer, safely extend protection to him, as an American citizen? -

Has he forfeited his claim for such protection by his acts?

He freely hands out his cards bearing the inscription - as per copy:

"A" card

L. N. Grayson

"Imperial Torpedo department"

He

He owns a Steam launch, on which he displays the Chinese flag - sometimes; and the U.S. flag at other times; and says he "will fly any flag" he chooses to fly.

This point is stated in a letter from Captain Barclay, hereto appended, marked "B"

"B" One letter

It will also appear, by perusal of Captain Barclay's letter, hereto appended, and marked "C", that Mr. Grayson is supposed to have in his employ, or under his control in the Chinese torpedo service a deserter, named Benjamin Taylor, from the U. S. S. "Alert," now, and since the 27th day of August last, in the port and harbour of Canton; and as Grayson and Taylor came from America to Japan together in that ship, it is supposed that he, Grayson is aware that he is harbouring a deserter from an American Ship.

Captain

Captain Barclay informs me that Graydon recently said on the "Alert" that even if the deserter was in his (Graydon's) steam launch, then alongside of the "Alert", no officer of the "Alert" could molest the deserter.

Captain Barclay, I understand, does not now permit Graydon to visit the "Alert".

Efforts are being, through the Chinese authorities, to arrest the deserter; who is now reported ill, and in hospital - probably in Stonecutters.

In July last, while Graydon was Executive officer of the H.M.S. "Talos", he persisted in corresponding direct - with the Chinese Authorities; and took serious umbrage at my refusal or denial to allow the Interpreter of this Consulate to interpret his despatches directed to H. E. the Viceroy; at a time -

when

when hostilities had commenced, or were about to commence, between France and China; and in utter disregard, on his part, of the obligations of all officers, and citizens, of the U. S. Government, to observe a strict neutrality.

As this young man is likely to be an active element in the war forces of China along the coast for the next few months, I respectfully suggest that all consular officers be instructed as to the nature and extent of his right to claim their services for his protection, in the event of falling into the hands of the French; which he is very likely to do, unless he is more discreet than he has been during the past three months.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour.

U. S. Consul.

"A"

J. W. Graydon.

Imperial Torpedo Department.

B.

Commander Barclay to Mr Seymour.

Canton, Nov. 26th, 1884.

Dear Sir,

I beg to call attention to the habit of Mr James H. Grayson, an American here, a contractor for the local Government, of carrying alternately, on the boat owned and used by him, the American and Chinese flags. The boat was purchased by him in Hong Kong, from British Subjects, but whether she ever carried, or was entitled to, any flag at all, before purchased by Mr Grayson, I do not know.

On all occasions, except two of his visits, in view of the anchorage of this vessel, he has carried the Chinese flag. Upon the two occasions to which I refer, he carried the American flag. Upon my asking

him,

him why he did so, he made some reply, to the effect that he was an American, and could fly that flag, or in fact any flag he chose to. As he was very drunk at the time, I failed to get much satisfaction, and dropped the subject. I think, however, that Mr Grayden's habit of flying first one and then the other flag, is a sort of piratical one, especially, as he is known to be engaged in the work of defending the city, against a possible attack by the French. I do not assert that he uses the American flag during his actual operations in the work upon which he is engaged, but I do not think that the flag should be used to cover that, or any boat engaged in a hostile act against a power friendly to ourselves. I am not able to lay hold of any law upon

the

the Subject, but I hope you will act as you deem proper.

I remain

(Signed) Charles J. Barclay.
Commander R. N. R.

"C"

Commander Barclay to Mr. Seymour.

November, 25th, 1884

Sir,

I beg to inform you, that from certain admissions made yesterday by Mr. James W. Grayson late a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy, and now I believe a Contractor for the Chinese Government at or near Canton, I am led to believe that he has in his employ a man named Benjamin Taylor formerly a Boatswain's mate on board of this vessel, from which he deserted October, 3rd, 1884 at this port. I beg to refer you to

Clause

Clause XVIII. of the Treaty between the U. S. and China of 18th June, 1858, and I ask that you will officially notify the local Chinese Authorities, request his arrest by them, and his delivery on board this ship. Should the Authorities fail to arrest this man, I shall deem it my duty to lay the matter before Rear Admiral Davis for his action. I beg an early attention to this matter.—

Very Respectfully
(Signed) Chas. J. Barclay
Commander
U. S. Navy.

No 112. Enclosure 2.

Mr. Verney to Mr. Seymour.

Peking, 30th December, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch no. 93 dated Dec. 4th, 1884 which I have read with some regret.

It appears from your statement that J. W. Graydon an officer of the U. S. S. "Palos" has resigned from the Navy and is now engaged in the Chinese Service especially in laying torpedoes in the Canton River as a defensive measure against possible attacks by the French. You report that Mr. Graydon although a gentleman of undoubted inventive genius is unfortunate in his personal habits "abusing and threatening highly respected and respectable residents" and "behaving in a defiant and "obstreperous manner." You ask the Legation how far Mr. Graydon's

action

action in taking service under the Chinese Government forfeits his claim for protection in the event of war between China and France. You refer to the fact that a deserter from the U.S.S. "Alert" named Benjamin Sayer is in the service of Mr Grayson. You further say that Mr Grayson while Executive officer of the "Palos" persisted in corresponding direct with the Chinese Authorities "taking serious umbrage at your "refusal to allow your interpreter "to translate despatches addressed to "H.E. the Viceroy."

In reference to the questions which you submit to the Legation, my judgment would be as follows:-

1st. I have no knowledge that war exists between France and China and in the absence of any instruction from the Government to the effect that war does exists. I cannot impose upon Mr Grayson the obligations of neutrality arising out of belligerent rights

respected and accepted by neutral powers.

2nd The right to fly the American flag is entirely within your discretion throughout your consular jurisdiction.

3rd If in your judgment Mr Grayson or any other am. citizen uses the American flag against your wish and authority and especially to assail a nation with whom our Government is on friendly relations as we are with France, you will use the whole power of your consulate to prevent and punish such a proceeding.

4th If Mr Grayson or any am. citizen disturb the peace by threats or acts calculated to lead to violence as you reported him to have done, your duty is to arrest him, and compel him to preserve the peace. You are a judge and custodian of public order and

under

under our law of territoriality your duty is to compel Am. Citizens to obey the law and to that end you must use all the powers entrusted to you by the Government.

5th In regard to the alleged deserter Benj Taylor, my opinion is this. If Captain Barclay or any American Commander lays before you information sworn to under oath that Benj. Taylor or any other seamen or officer of an americ. man-of-war has deserted, and you can find the deserter within your jurisdiction, you will cause him to be arrested and the case carefully examined and if the person arrested is in your judgment acting judicially proves to be a deserter you will return him to the man of war.

6th XXVIII Art. 1858. — "If citizens "of the United States have special "occasion to address any communi- "cation to the Chinese local officers of "Government

"Government, they shall submit the same
"to their Consul, or other Officer, to
"determine if the language be proper and
"respectful, and the matter right and
"just, in which event he shall transmit the
"same to the appropriate authorities for
"their consideration and action in the premises."

You will see by this provision that all correspondence between Am. citizens and Ch. authorities must be conducted through the Consulate or the Legation. Mr. Grayson, therefore, in holding direct correspondence with the Chinese authorities ignoring the express provision of the treaty and your authority as Consul, was guilty of a violation of his duty as a citizen.

It is of course a gratification to the Leg". to know that an Amer. Officer has shown the genius and the enterprise exhibited by Mr. Grayson. And the Legation is disposed to encourage the efforts of Americans to advance Western ideas in China. This can only be done however,

however as specified by treaty and commanded by law. I should regret to see Americans especially an American holding the commission of a naval officer becoming an adventurer in the service of the Chinese or any other Govern[t]. by denationalizing himself. If Mr. Grayson chooses to denationalize himself and abandon his country you are in no way responsible for the consequences of that act but so long as he is accepted by you as an American citizen, he must answer to the duties of his citizenship. He must keep the public peace. He must respect the treaties so far as dealing with the Chinese authorities is concerned. He must not harbour deserters. He must not use the flag without your knowledge and express permission. He must be governed by you as the representative of the nation & charged with the supervision & Enforcement of its laws.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Acknowledged

No. 606 Five enclosures

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 30th 1884.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.

Public opinion in Shanghai

Synopsis

Enclosing report of a large public meeting held in Shanghai Resolved to make representations to the Governments of Great Britain, Germany and the United States looking towards peace.

No. 606 Five enclosures

Legation of the United States.

Peking, December 30 1884

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

In arranging the archives at the close of the year, I find, to my regret, that I omitted to send you the correspondence with the Consulate-General arising out of the meeting of the foreign residents in Shanghai looking towars peace and the preservation of the Woosung Channel. It is 1.2.3.

more

more than probable that it may have gone to you from Consul-General Stahel. At the same time I send it to make sure of its becoming a part of the history of current events in Lolina.

The resolution of the meeting as first proposed and advertised in the public prints will be found as enclosure No. 4 The British Minister was requested "as representing the preponderant interest" to move the neutral governments in the hope of peace. Gen. Stahel objected

4

to

to this, not wishing to unite in any formal statement to the effect that the interests of any power in China were paramount to those of the United States. The resolution was therefore amended as will be seen in enclosure No. 1 so as to make the appeal jointly to the "British, German and American nationalities as representing the preponderant interest" This action of Gen. Fakel met with my hearty approval.

There was a

strong

strong sentiment among the minority of the meeting antagonistic to China. It was proposed to offer as a substitute for the resolution which passed, what you will find as enclosure No. 5 in which China is severely censured. Better counsels prevailed and the action of the meeting was temperate and firm.

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lincoln Casey

Enclosures

Enclosures.

1. Gen. Stahel to Mr Young
No. 41 Sept. 29 1884.
2. Gen Stahel to Mr Young
No. 42 Sept. 29 1884.
3 Mr Young to Mr Stahel
No. 182 Oct. 14. 1884.
4. Resolution first proposed
5. Resolution offered as a substitute for the one which passed.

Enclosure one.

Gen. Stahel to Mr. Young.
No. 41 Enclosure.
Sept. 29. 1884

Sir:

For your information I have the honor to forward to you herewith a copy of a letter which I have received on the 2.nd inst. from Mr. Pundon the Chairman of the Shanghai Gunnal Chamber of Commerce with reference to the narrowing of the Woosung river.

I have conferred with Admiral Davis before making my reply.

I am.
Sgd J. Stahel

Enclosure
1 Mr. Pundon to Gen. Stahel

No. 41 Enclosure

Mr Purdon to Gen. Stahel.

Sept. 21. 1864.

Gen. A. Stahel.
U.S. Consul General
Shanghai

Sir:

Mr Hughes, H.B.M.'s Consul General has courteously informed me that he has just received a despatch from the Tartai informing him that in obedience to an Imperial decree the Hwangpoo river was to be immediately blocked, only a narrow channel, less than 250 Chinese fur. to be left open.

Mr Hughes added that he was advising the Tartai that in any case he should obtain skilled foreign assistance so that as little permanent harm as possible be done.

As this action is of

such

such great importance to this community, I called at once to confer with Mr Hughes and you, but unfortunately did not find you at home.

The Consular Body no doubt will take such action as they deem desirable in the matter, but as it appears at present at least that there is no way of stopping the work all that can be done is to endeavor to have the Chinese do it in a manner that will cause as little injury as possible

I therefore, on behalf of the Chamber of Commerce representing the commercial interests of the community, beg leave to suggest that you get Adm. Davis, as senior Naval officer to confer with the other Naval officers here at once, with a view of taking such steps as may seem advisable to accomplish

that

that end.

Damage.

Attest Jno. G. Pinson.
Chairman

Enclosure 2.

Gen. Staker to Mr. Young
No. 47. One Enclosure.
Sept. 29. 1884

Sir:

I have the honor to hand you herewith a copy of a report of a large public meeting held in Shanghai on the 16th instant for the purpose of considering what steps should be taken by the foreign community of Shanghai, in view of the existing hostilities between China and France, which at the present moment are impeding every interest of the port and threatening its prosperity, in a serious manner. The resolution contained in said report was telegraphed to the Chamber of Commerce of London, Hamburg and New York praying these Chambers to move the

respective

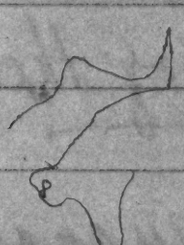
respective governments of their countries to take such measures as are indicated in the resolution for the purpose of bringing about a peaceful solution of the existing difficulties.

Yours

Sgd J Stahel

Enclosure.

1 Copy of Resolution



THE POLITICAL POSITION.

PUBLIC MEETING OF RESIDENTS.

A Public Meeting of the Foreign Residents of all nationalities in Shanghai was held on Tuesday, the 16th September, 1884, in the Lyceum Theatre, for the purpose of considering the present position of political affairs. The meeting was convoked by a Committee appointed in accordance with a resolution passed at a preliminary meeting held on Saturday, the 13th September, and comprised of the following gentlemen, viz., Messrs. J. J. Keswick, J. G. Purdon, Robert Mackenzie, P. G. Hübbe, W. S. Wetmore, A. G. Wood, H. R. Hearn, Adam Lind, and John Walter. Upwards of four hundred residents of all nationalities were present, among them being, in addition to the members of the Committee, who occupied seats on the stage, Bishop Boone, Archdeacon Moule, the Rev. F. R. Smith, Dr. Young J. Allen, Dr. Gulick, Dr. Lambuth, Rev. W. W. Royall, Dr. Henderson, Dr. Milles, Dr. Zachariæ, Dr. Perkins, W. Watson, Captain Bolton, Captain N. P. Andersen, Messrs. H. Melchers, St. C. Michaelsen, R. Francis, G. H. Wheeler, T. Waters, W. Birt, J. M. Cory, W. V. Drummond, F. W. Galles, J. M. Ringer, T. Latham, G. Lewis, E. G. Low, C. Thorne, H. Evans, P. V. Grant, R. W. Little, A. Veitch, J. A. Taylor, J. Sharp, H. Dyer, F. W. Lemarchand, A. J. M. Inverarity, J. I. Miller, C. Dowdall, E. E. Sassoon, J. H. Pinckvoss, T. Brown, W. Buchanan, J. S. Ezekiel, R. W. Mustard, J. W. Hart, F. J. Marshall, Nils Möller, W. Saunders, G. McBain, E. Major, H. Morriss, J. H. Scott, J. W. Maclellan, A. Bielfeld, J. F. Cheetham, Aug. White, W. Brand, J. A. Harvie, F. M. Stickler, E. O. Arbuthnot, H. Symons, E. P. Lalcacca, M. H. Cook, W. B. Jamieson, H. T. Wade, C. P. Donaldson, W. Judd, L. Moore, W. C. Howard, A. Greathead, C. Deighton-Braysher, C. J. Ashley, J. Henniggsen, E. B. Drew, F. Borchardt, R. E. Wainewright, A. J. How, W. Dunman, C. J. Dudgeon, E. H. Lavers, R. H. Percival, G. R. Corner (Secretary to the meeting), etc. A few ladies were also present.

Mr. PURDON rose and said—I beg to propose that Mr. J. J. Keswick the representative of one of the largest and oldest business firms in China, do take the chair at this meeting. (Cheers.)

Mr. HEARN seconded the resolution, and it was adopted.

The CHAIRMAN said—Ladies and Gentlemen, this Committee was appointed on the 13th September at a preliminary meeting called for the purpose of considering the difficult position of affairs and of protecting the trade of Shanghai—and indeed I may say the trade of China at large. It would not be out of place, perhaps, if I were very briefly to sketch the circumstances under which we have found ourselves somewhat agitated during the past fortnight in consequence of things going on around us and emanating from the conduct of the belligerents, France and China. We were in some considerable alarm in regard to the affair of the Woosung Bar; and it was impossible for any of us too much to dread such consequences as would flow from such an act. I am glad to inform the company present that the Chamber of Commerce took immediate steps by placing itself in communication both with representatives in China and with Governments and bodies elsewhere, for the purpose of overcoming that difficulty. And I am extremely thankful to say that at the present time we may consider that the Woosung Bar is safe.—(Applause.) But there are very serious questions which arise from the state of hostilities that we are in—a state in which warlike operations are being carried on while yet there is no declaration of war, and we have reason to fear that as time goes on, serious complications may arise out of a disregard at the present time of these things, and of the strained and peculiar positions in which France and China are now operating. It is for that reason that we are gathered here together to-day; the object for which we are striving is more that of peace than anything else, and that is what we come here for. We believe that the result to be attained by war is peace in the end; and we believe that instead of going to war, France and China can get what they require by mediation, and so avoid the injury to property, the destruction of life and all the miseries which come in the ordinary course of war. Therefore, gentlemen, the Committee felt that the only way in which they could perform the duties which were entrusted to them on Saturday was to call this meeting and ask the residents to give expression to their feelings and invite the mediation of Powers at home to bring about the end that all are striving for, without bloodshed. Therefore gentlemen I will draw your attention to the resolution which will very soon be proposed and submitted to this meeting for its approval. Of course, gentlemen, during the time—a very short time indeed—which we have been devoting to this resolution we have been more than once confronted with the statement that such high international affairs are affairs beyond the ken of this community; but I for one would take the liberty to deny that statement. (Applause). I consider that beyond all doubt we are the victims of anything that may happen here; and on that

ground, of being the victims of it—for we have no other connection with it—it is natural that we should make our voices heard. If we, who are the sufferers, do not make our voices heard, I do not understand how we can expect people at a distance, in comparative ignorance with regard to us, to take any interest in our affairs. (Applause.) I think there is very little more to say, except that it has been one of the chief controlling inclinations of the Committee to put out of this discussion everything of a political character, everything that might cause any kind of recrimination on either party—not to say that France is right and China wrong, or that China is right and France wrong. It is merely a safeguard for the future that we are concerned in obtaining. I will say one word more and I have done, and that is with regard to the haste with which this agitation has been got up. It might have been well, perhaps, to have left it over for a week or ten days longer, but I doubt it very much. I think it can be perfectly satisfactorily gone into in a period of a quarter of an hour, and for that reason we have hastened it on as much as possible; and we believe that what we are going to represent in the various channels will not prove fruitless, but will enable people here to rest with greater comfort and safety than if this machinery had never been set in motion. I will therefore call upon the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce to read the resolution, with which you doubtless are all familiar. (Applause.)

Mr. PURDON—Whatever may be the result of this meeting, and whatever may be the fate of this resolution which I have to propose—whether it meet with the cordial approval of all here present, as we hope it will do, or not—it is very evident that the subject of which it treats is one of paramount interest to this community; I think that is abundantly testified by this large assembly. I do not remember ever before seeing so large an assembly come together to discuss the commercial interests of this port. The resolution deals with the larger question of the disorganised state of China caused by the hostilities between France and China. The smaller—the local question, if I may so call it—of the blocking of the Woosung Bar, out of which this movement has sprung, has already been attended to by the Chamber of Commerce. I think you will agree with me that the Chamber acted promptly in that matter. (Applause) There was no time to get the sense of the community; they took it for granted: and I hope they acted satisfactorily for the community. (Cheers.) Although the subject has been before the public in the papers in an informal way, the public have not yet seen what was communicated to the Consuls, and as it may have some bearing on any discussion that may take place here to-day, I will, with your permission, read the letter which the Chamber of Commerce wrote to the Consuls, and their reply:—

Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce,
9th September, 1884.

SIR,—The Committee of this Chamber having been informed that the Taotai of Shanghai has addressed a circular letter to the Consuls of the Treaty Powers at this port informing them that the Chinese authorities were about to block up the mouth of the Whangpoo river so as to prevent ingress and egress, except through a narrow channel, consider it their duty to call the attention of the authorities to the very serious results which will ensue from such a proceeding.

It may be safely averred that the very existence of Shanghai as a great commercial centre, the maintenance of its costly and valuable properties, its enterprise and the safety and prosperity of its inhabitants, both European and Chinese, depend upon the freedom of its water communication: and the Committee therefore urge with all the earnestness which so grave a proposal as the closing or tampering with the river call for, that some steps be at once taken to avert such a calamity from Shanghai. Not only will the difficulties of navigation at present existing be materially increased by the presence of obstructions in the existing channels, but the whole of the water-way will be threatened by the accumulations fostered by the construction of such impediments, and the trade of the port cannot fail to suffer seriously, not only during the continuance of the present difficulties between France and China, but the stoppage may assume such proportions as to necessitate the lapse of years for its removal.

The Committee have no doubt that the Consular Body have already taken steps to do what they think best to prevent the approaches to this port being in any way interfered with or interrupted.

This the Committee understand has been entertained by France but objected to by the Chinese; but where there is so much to be gained in the general interest of neutral foreigners, they feel that every effort should be made to bring the Chinese to consent to such an arrangement, and they would therefore be glad if you would convey the ideas of the Committee to the body of Ministers at Peking and ask them to take such further steps as may seem advisable to prevent a course of action which cannot but result in very serious consequences to the general trade of the port.

I have the honour to be, etc.,

J. G. PURDON,
Chairman.

To Dr. J. LUHRSEN,
H.G.M. Consul-General,
Doyen of the Consular Body, Shanghai.

Shanghai, 16th September, 1884.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant relating to the narrowing of the Whangpoo river. I have laid the letter before my colleagues at the meeting held on the same day, and it has been decided to forward it on to the Doyen of the Diplomatic Corps at Peking, which has been done accordingly.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

LÜHRSEN,
His German Majesty's Consul-General, and Senior Consul.

To JOHN G. PURDON, Esq.,
Chairman, Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce, Shanghai.

That is with regard to the Woosung Bar; but this present question seems to be one upon which the whole community has a right to speak. We have not thought it well to dwell upon technicalities, or to discuss moot points, or to argue about the interpretation of treaties. We know that our trade is being interrupted, and that it will be still more injured, if not destroyed, if the present state of things continue, and we say we have, as loyal people, the right to call on our Governments to do what they can to remedy this. The mode we will leave altogether to them. If the treaties are sufficient, it is their province to enforce them; if it is a question of mediation, it is for them to mediate. What we say is that we have the right to call upon our Governments to see that we are not subjected needlessly to a continuance of the hardships we are now suffering. I will not make any further remarks. I wish my remarks to be as short as possible, as we think it is very desirable that all the remarks should be. At the same time, we think it is very desirable that everyone here who has any views on the subject, or anything to say, should say it, so that we may have the question fully discussed. You will see that the resolution has been slightly modified from the one published in the morning paper. I beg to move:—

"Whereas the hostilities unhappily begun between France and China are not likely by the ordinary process of military operations to be brought to an early conclusion; will demand sacrifices from both belligerents utterly disproportionate to the known objects to be gained; will seriously injure the commerce of China and bring ruin on this and the other Foreign Communities on the Coast, and render valueless the vast accumulations of property at the Treaty Ports; will inflict untold misery on the Chinese people and may in the present circumstances of this Empire produce the disorders which devastated the country within the memory of many of us; and whereas the nominal *casus belli* appearing to be moral and sentimental rather than material, the circumstances are so exceptional as to justify the Foreign Community in giving strong expression to its feelings in favour of a speedy settlement of the dispute: Therefore be it

"*Resolved*:—That this meeting of all nationalities residing in Shanghai make an urgent appeal to the British, German, and American Governments, as representing the preponderant interest, begging them to call upon the Treaty Powers collectively to render their good offices to France and China with a view to bringing about such a settlement of the quarrel as shall satisfy the honour of both countries; and that the Committee be instructed to place themselves in communication by Telegraph with the Chambers of Commerce of England, Germany and America requesting them to bring the subject before their respective Governments, and to invite the co-operation of the Chambers of Commerce of other countries interested in the Trade of China."

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—I have been asked to second this resolution, and I do so the more willingly because I am quite sure that it needs but very few words to commend it to the meeting. There may be differences of opinion as to its wording, but as to its object it is unmistakeable. There can be no question about it that at the present time we are in the presence of events which will be of peculiar historical importance—events of the greatest, the most momentous interest to all of us. Our employment, our property, our prosperity are all involved and are all at stake. There can be no question that this being the largest foreign community in China, the community which represents the largest amount of property and which speaks with more effect, necessarily than any other community at any of the ports of China—that this community ought to move in the matter; and that it is its interest to express its opinion and raise its voice at this juncture I think cannot be denied. We are certainly most deeply interested in what is going forward round us; and we are speaking not only on behalf of ourselves, but on behalf of at least a hundred thousand Chinese whose interests are bound up with our own, and on behalf of all the other ports where foreign interests are involved, and Chinese interests mixed with them. The question is whether this war, which has been begun though it has not been declared, is going to give us any advantages which will counterbalance the injuries which it will do to ourselves and to the nation among whom we live. It is a war in which no principles are involved; it is not a war which has begun on any great principle or which will lead to any great advantage to either belligerent. It is, as the resolution says, a war which is at present based almost upon a sentimental grievance. It is a question of honour, which no doubt is a very important thing, but which might be satisfied without years of hostilities. I submit that the evils of a long war will far counterbalance any advantages which we foreigners are likely to derive. If it is continued, it may probably lead to a revolution, and nothing could be worse for foreigners than a struggle between rival candidates for the throne. It will undo all that has been done during the years of peace, during which China has certainly made strides towards progress. At any rate we know that its disadvantages are most pressing and most serious. As regards the action which has been taken by the Chamber of Commerce, I may say before I sit down that I am sorry to hear from the captain of a vessel that has come in this morning that the work at the Bar is going on most actively—that the junks are being loaded with stones as fast as they can load them. Up to the present day they have contented themselves with covering the decks with stones so that they should look as if they were full; but now they are actually filling them, so that immediate action is necessary. I sincerely hope that whatever remarks may be made upon the phraseology of this motion, its principle will carry the meeting with it, so that at any rate, if we suffer, we shall not suffer in silence, and so that we may feel that we have done our best to bring the belligerents to reason and put an end to the struggle. (Cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN was about to put the resolution to the meeting, when,

Mr. A. J. How rose and said—Mr. Chairman, I think it is undesirable that we should pass this resolution without discussing it. I rise chiefly with the object of commencing a discussion in the hope that others will continue it. The resolution which is before the meeting is, I think, unique; it has the palm of originality and the merit of inoffensiveness. But the great question I think we have to consider is whether it may not defeat the object which we all have in view. I have lived long enough to see the entrances to a quarrel of many States, but this is the first time in my experience that I have ever known neutrals trading in the country of either of the belligerents remonstrating through their own Governments against the continuance of a state of war because it would be detrimental to their own interests. Now there are some parts—there is one part of the resolution here, which I think does not altogether correctly represent the state of affairs. It states that the *casus belli* is of a moral and sentimental character. I may be wrong, but I have been under the impression, and I have been supported in it by the statements of one of the parties, that the *casus belli* is an unwarranted attack by a Chinese force on French troops. Now if that is a moral and sentimental *casus belli*, I do not think I understand the true meaning of the words. The Tsung-li Yamên are generally conceived to be stiff-necked—strongly convinced of the superiority of their country; and the fact that we are encouraging them in the position they have taken up is not at all unlikely to make the settlement of the trouble more difficult. They have set forth a piteous wail that those treaties with foreign Powers which now exist have been forced upon them under circumstances distasteful, as they euphoniously express it. Yet, notwithstanding these circumstances, it has been the dear object of their lives to strictly carry out the provisions of those treaties. Now I think it is clear to everyone that that statement is a specious falsehood. I might perhaps go further, and say that the Tsung-li Yamên is a board especially constituted to evade and annul the provisions of the treaties as far as it is possible for them to do it. And you are also aware, gentlemen, that more than one of our Ministers have been grossly insulted in the course of the last few months. There is more than good reason to believe that the attack by the Chinese soldiers at Langson was the wilful and deliberate act of the Tsung-li Yamên done with the deliberate idea of nullifying the Li-Fournier Treaty of Tientsin. The rights of that case we shall never understand, but if, as is probable, that is really the case, the Tsung-li Yamên (and here I am speaking of the Tsung-li Yamên as more or less representing the Government of China) are now about to receive the retribution they have provoked, and they so justly deserve. Is it altogether wise on our part to shelter them from that punishment? If the Langson affair has been described by the French Government as treacherous, I do not know what the French Government will think of the attack on Keelung. That was done at a time when the two nations were treating for peace and when the time for the expiry of the ultimatum had not arrived. I pass over the proceedings at Foochow. It is an unfortunate event; but it has been successful so far as destroying the Chinese fleet goes, and it has probably given the Chinese an idea of the impossibility of resisting a European force. But I should have had in the resolution some deprecation of the irregular guerilla warfare that is now going on. It is paralysing our trade, destroying our industries and it will ruin our property; and of this there seems to be no end, because we heard only yesterday that M. Ferry, I may say with an audacity which rivals that of his dear friend Mr. Gladstone (hisses and cheers) has declared that there is no war.—(Applause.)

After a pause,

The Chairman said—Well, gentlemen, I have paused a little after the speech of Mr. How to see if anyone else was disposed to discuss this question, and there does not appear to be anyone, and therefore I think I may proceed to put the resolution to the meeting.

The Chairman then put the resolution to the meeting, and almost every hand was held up in its favour. Before he could put the negative to the meeting,

Mr. Nils Möller interposed and said—Before you put this resolution to the meeting will you permit me, as an old resident to give my opinion on these matters—as regards the French and Chinese difficulty. Gentlemen, no doubt we are in a mess.—(Laughter.) We are in a great deal of trouble. However, if we look carefully into the matter, I believe that the origin of the trouble will be found in the midst of us. It is a hard thing to say, but I am almost certain of it. For many years we have been trading with the natives of this country. We have sold them ships; we have sold them arms; we have sold them Krupp guns, and Gatling guns and Remington rifles all the time—all, it may be said, for filthy lucre. (Loud cheers and laughter.) But gentlemen they omitted one thing. They forgot to tell the natives of this country—or rather they had not the moral courage to tell them—that if you give them the instruments they have not got the men to work them. They might as well have given them electrical clocks.—(Laughter.) All this flattery has made them arrogant. Then we talk about the Frenchmen marching here and there, and we had even a newspaper telling us the other day that the French ought to march straight to Peking—just as if a French army could march straight from Shanghai to Peking. That is the mistake we have made, and we have to suffer for it. For my part, I think in this matter the French have shown a great deal of moderation and patience. They have allowed the Chinese every chance that they could; they have

gone on dilly-dallying for a whole month trying to bring the people to terms ; but of course they did not do it, and at the last extremity they had to take to hard means. About the blocking up of the Woosung Bar—they have been talking about it for a long time but I do not believe they will do it. But if they did we could not help ourselves. We cannot prevent the Chinese from stopping their own ports. What the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in London says will not amount to a snap of my finger, because they will know that we are at the bottom of it.—(Laughter.) They will know that we have got ourselves into trouble, and they will not take any notice. The Marquis Tsêng some months ago was bamboozling the whole diplomatic body of Great Britain. If the French marched on Bacninh it was to be a *casus belli*, but when the French got there the first thing the Chinese did was to clear out. Gentlemen, we have been flattering these people too much, and we suffer for it now. The best thing—I have been here for twenty-five years—is to tell the natives the truth. But we have been flattering them all the way along, until they have been thinking that by buying arms and implements they can conquer the whole world. Whether this resolution is passed or not I am not concerned in, because for my part I do not believe that if it is passed it will carry any weight at home.—(Loud cheers.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the negative of the resolution to the meeting, and declared the resolution carried with three dissentients.

Mr. DRUMMOND—Before we separate to-day it is well to put through another small piece of business tending in the same direction as that which has just been accomplished. The resolution which has just been passed, practically unanimously asks the Committee to use their best efforts in the direction of mediation, and so to bring about peace between the two belligerents. That is an excellent object, and if that resolution will tend to bring about the desired end one moment sooner, no one's time to-day will have been wasted. I have, however, at this moment one other object in view, and that is to propose a resolution which I am happy to say has met with approval by all the members of the Committee and which will be seconded by the Chairman of the Meeting. The resolution is in wider terms than the one that has been read to you. I will first read it, and then give the facts which make it desirable in my opinion that that resolution should be brought forward to-day :—

"That the Committee be requested to take all such steps as they may consider desirable for the purpose of preserving intact all the rights and privileges vested in the members of this community under the existing treaties."

That resolution, as you will see, is very short, but very wide ; and I think it is desirable that this Committee should have the power, if they should find that the circumstances make it desirable to exercise it either now or in the immediate future, to take some other steps beyond those mentioned in the resolution already passed, and obtain for us a security that the rights which already belong to us under the treaties already existing shall be respected. I might perhaps first refer to the fact, which has perhaps struck most of you, that in the recent Peking Decrees we have had, I think, somewhat of a novelty rather frequently—we have had constant references to international law. That is somewhat a new departure, and I think must have struck those who take an interest in such matters with some degree of surprise. Books on international law are quoted, and the quotations read well, and, I have no doubt, are correctly copied ; but they are inaccurately applied. They are quoted as if the question was one between two great and wholly independent Powers, or as if they had the same application where one of the parties was under disabilities by being bound down by treaty obligations. The fact of these disabilities appears to be forgotten, and therefore many of the passages quoted are wholly irrelevant, or have a very limited application. I do not know who has the honour to supply the Chinese Government with these quotations, but whoever he is, neither he nor the Government seems to have the requisite knowledge to apply them properly. I may take an instance that has been referred to by the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce already, and about which he has read us a most interesting letter addressed by the Chamber to the Doyen of the Consular body and his reply—I refer to the Woosung Bar. Now we have had to-day statements from the Chairman of the Meeting and from the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce to the effect that the danger with regard to the Woosung Bar was practically over. Mr. Wainewright says, however, that there is great reason to doubt that. From personal observation I see no reason to believe that the danger is over in any degree. Two days ago thework of filling those junks with stones was going on. Mr. Nils Möller, in his eloquent address, has stated that in his opinion however desirable it may be to take these steps no one has any right under the treaty to prevent the Chinese from taking any steps they please to protect themselves ; in other words they are at perfect liberty to stop the ingress and egress of merchant ships and do anything they like. I rather think he is wrong on that point, and he, like many others equally ignorant, will be glad to learn, I think, that our position is infinitely better than that. There is a clause in the Treaty between the United States and China bearing upon this very question. It is Article XXIV of the Treaty between the United States and China, signed in June, 1858 :—

"Art. XXVI.—Relations of peace and amity between the United States and China being established by this treaty, and the vessels of the United States being admitted to trade freely to and from the ports of China open to foreign commerce; it is further agreed that, in case at any time hereafter China should be at war with any foreign nation whatever, and should for that cause exclude such nation from entering her ports, still the vessels of the United States shall not the less continue to pursue their commerce in freedom and security, and to transport goods to and from the ports of the belligerent powers, full respect being paid to the neutrality of the flag of the United States, provided that the said flag shall not protect vessels engaged in the transportation of officers or soldiers in the enemy's ships, with their cargoes, to enterany of the ports of China; but all such vessels so offending shall be subject to forteiture and confiscation to the Chinese Government."

There I think you will see that the very point has been anticipated of war between China and other foreign nation, and in spite of that the Chinese have bound themselves by a foreign treaty that they will still allow ingress and egress freely to the ships of the United States. Obviously that can not be done if they block up the channel so that it is impossible for American ships to come in and go out. A similar clause exists in the Treaty between France and China, dated 1860, and between Italy and China, dated 1866. We will put aside the Treaty with France, as, that nation being a belligerent, the treaty is non-existent for the moment; but the Treaty with Italy is identical. The clause is as follows:—

"Should China be at war with another power this circumstance shall not in any way interfere with the free trade of Italy with China or with the opposing nation. Italian vessels may always, except in the case of effective blockade, sail without obstacle from the ports of the one to the ports of the other, trade in the ordinary manner, and import and export of every kind of merchandise not prohibited."

I do not know that it would be possible to get in plainer language the position in case of a war between China and another Power. China, attempting to defend herself, will find her attempts to defend herself limited in certain directions. She may attempt to stop the ships of the enemy from going in, but she must keep the channel open for the ships of commerce of neutral nations. I think nothing could express it more plainly than this clause does; and it is very important that this clause should be carried out in its integrity. I need hardly remind you that the clause known as the "Most Favoured Nation Clause", gives to Government or subjects of the country in whose treaty it is inserted "free and equal participation in all privileges, immunities, and advantages that may have been, or may be hereafter, granted by His Majesty the Emperor of China to the Government or subjects of any other nation." This clause has been inserted in the Treaties with England and nearly every other Power, and therefore whatever Treaty that other clause in, it is of equal value to us all, no matter what country we may belong to. Therefore when China set to work to put stone-laden junks on the Woosung Bar she did what was, knowingly or unknowingly, a most distinct violation of our treaty rights. It is very important, I think, that we should all endeavour intelligently to understand the rights and privileges that we do enjoy under these treaties here, and, as has been well said already to-day, if we ourselves do not stir to obtain, first a knowledge of them entirely, and secondly a recognition of them, it is hardly for us to expect that others not so vitually interested, as we are, should take the trouble we do not take for ourselves. It is very important that we should do what we can to secure to ourselves a continuance of the rights that belong to us. I do not say we should ask for any further rights, but it is important that we should find out what rights belong to us and insist upon them. I will not occupy your time any longer, but I hardly think your time has been wasted if it has brought to your minds a knowledge that we are now in a better position than we previously thought we were, because it is obvious to every one of us that our existence here, or at all events our prosperity here, wholly depends on the trade of Shanghai, and that the trade of Shanghai depends almost, if not wholly, upon the facilities of ingress and egress of this port, and if we are sure that we can, in all circumstances of hostility as well as peace, keep that channel open for the purposes of commerce, we have gone a long way towards establishing the security of the commerce of Shanghai, both now and in the future.—(Applause.)

Mr. PURDON—I should like to make one explanation. Mr. Drummond is mistaken in thinking that I said that the obstruction of the Woosung Bar was being put a stop to. All I said was that the Chamber of Commerce, not having time to consult the Community, took immediate action.

Mr. DRUMMOND—The phrase was, I think, "The Woosung Bar is safe."

Mr. PURDON—Not from me.

The CHAIRMAN—It was I who said that. I made that statement with the impression that what I was saying was strictly accurate, because I thought that the driving of piles and filling with stones and sinking of junks had been abandoned, though the junks were still there, and that the action of the Viceroy and the Tao-t'ai had been countermanded. Even at the present time, though I have heard with regret what Mr. Wainewright has told us, I believe that policy has been abandoned. I make that statement by way of explanation. I have much pleasure in seconding Mr. Drummond's proposition. It is exceedingly useful that there should be an organised body ready at all times to safeguard our interests and to prevent any action which is likely to infringe the rights of the merchants of Shanghai—and not only the merchants, but residents of all

kinds, merchants or mechanics, doctors or lawyers. We are all equally interested, and it will be a benefit to all of us to have a body ready at hand, so avoiding the necessity of calling a public meeting with all the difficulties of organising it. I have therefore great pleasure in seconding the proposal of Mr. Drummond, and before I put it to the meeting I shall pause a minute to see if there are any dissentient voices on that subject.

No one rising, the Chairman put the resolution to the meeting, and it was carried unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—I will ask the company before they go if anyone else has any thing to propose or say. If not, the meeting is concluded.

Mr. DRUMMOND suggested that it was desirable, as the Committee might exist for a considerable length of time, that they should have power to add to their number.

The CHAIRMAN concurred, and the following was added as a rider to Mr. Drummond's motion : "And that the Committee be empowered to add to their number."

The meeting then broke up.

Enclosure three

Mr. Young to Gen. Stahel.

[Copy No. 182.]

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 14th October, 1884.

To General JULIUS STAHEL,
U. S. Consul General, Shanghai.

SIR,—I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 42, dated September 29th, in which you enclose the proceedings of a meeting of foreigners resident in Shanghai, relative to peace between China and France. From the inception of the trouble between China and France, this Legation has striven for an honourable settlement. The United States can have no interest in China but that free and full development of trade upon which the prosperity of Shanghai so much depends. This can only come from the prosperity and independence of China, and those frank and friendly relations on the part of China with western nations which it is our aim to encourage. The United States, having no policy in Asia but that of commercial advantages in which our people invite an honourable, just, and generous competition, can only look upon war with concern. This Legation, having spared no effort towards the protection of all foreign interests in China, either by the movements of our men-of-war, or by diplomatic representations to the Yamên, will be only too glad to do what it can, either in its own way, or in concert with other Powers, to secure to foreign interests that protection which can only be found in a lasting and honourable peace.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
JOHN RUSSELL YOUNG.

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Enclosure four.

Public Meeting of residents.

The following resolution will be brought forward at the meeting in the Hyeeum theatre today at 2.30 p.m.

Whereas the hostilities unhappily begun betw. France and China are not likely by the ordinary process of military operations to be brought to an early conclusion; will demand sacrifices from both belligerents utterly disproportionate to the known objects to be gained; will seriously injure the commerce of China and bring ruin on this and the other foreign communities on the Coast, and render valueless the vast accumulations of property at the treaty ports; will inflict untold misery on the Chinese people

and

and may in the present circumstances of this Empire produce the disorders which devastated the country within the memory of many of us; and whereas the nominal causus belli appears to be moral and sentimental rather than material, the circumstances are so exceptional as to justify the foreign Community in giving strong expression of its feelings in favor of a speedy settlement of the dispute. Therefore, be it Resolved:

That this meeting of all nationalities residing in Shanghai make an urgent appeal to the British Government as representing the preponderant interest begging them to call upon the treaty powers collectively to render their good offices to France and China with a view to bringing about such a settlement of the

quarrel

"quarrel as shall satisfy the honor of both countries. and that the committee be instructed to place themselves in communication by telegraph with the London Chamber of commerce requesting them to bring the subject before the foreign Office with that object and to invite the cooperation of Chambers of Commerce in England, Germany, America and other countries interested in the trade of China.

(sgd) J. G. Purdon
R. Mackenzie
P. J. Hubbe
H. S. Wetmore
A. J. Wood
H. R. Hearn
Adam Reid
Jas. Haller.
J. J. Kenwick.

Enclosure 5.

The following Resolution is submitted for consideration at the Public Meeting of residents to be held at the Lyceum Theatre at 2.30 o'clock today

Whereas the hostilities unhappily begun between France and China, being simply the natural and inevitable outcome sooner or later, of the increasing arrogance, insolence, prevarication and general obstructiveness shown by China during late years, must be regarded as a necessary evil;

And whereas any action of the of the foreign community in favor of Tongee will be looked upon by the Chinese as an indication, either of weakness, fear or sympathy with their cause, and will thus hinder rather than

advance

advance the prospects of peace.
Therefore be it

Resolved.- That this meeting while anxiously desirous that the evils of war may be averted, urgently deprecates any attempt to secure peace except in such terms as will convince China that she is still unfit to join the equity of nations and will, (if such be possible) induce her to adopt in future a course of straightforward and honorable conduct which will change the feeling with which she is now universally regarded of continual distrust into one of honorable friendship.

FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED.

To Treasury
Nav. Navy

No. 607 ; Enclosure

Legation of the United States,
Peking December 30th 1884

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State

Subject
Light on Fort Zealandia

Synopsis.
As Formosa is menaced
by the French, the light
on Fort Zealandia is
extinguished to embarass
French naval operations

No 607 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, December 30. 1884

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I enclose for your information a copy of a notice in reference to the light of Fort Zeelandia at Anping South Formosa which was extinguished on the 26th ultimo. As Formosa is menaced by the French I presume that the

Chinese authorities have
taken this step to
embarrass French naval
operations.

I communicated
this information to the
Rear Admiral Commanding
our squadron.

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosure?

1 Notice to Mariners

RTMENT OF STA

AMOY DISTRICT:

Local Notice to Mariners, No. 17.

Anping Light extinguished. Fisher Island and South Cape Lights, continued exhibition of, not to be reckoned on.

It is hereby notified that the Light on Fort Zealandia, at Anping, South Formosa, was extinguished on the 26th ultimo, until further notice.

Shipmasters are warned not to reckon on the continued exhibition of the Lights at Fisher Island and South Cape during the present blockade of the ports and coast of Formosa.

H. J. MEADE,

Harbour Master.

Approved:

J. McLEAVY BROWN,

Commissioner of Customs.

Custom House,

Amoy, 1*st December* 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

No 608
Incloses with gratification
Manuel L. Quezon

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 30th December, 1884.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The transfer of the C. M. S. N. Company.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young referring to the transfer of the China Merchant Steam Navigation Company reports an amicable arrangement for carrying the Tribute rice pending to prevent a business conflict between the rival companies.

No. 608.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 30th December, 1884.

To the,

Honourable Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

As a further acknowledgment of your Despatch No: 353, dated, October, 23rd, 1884 in reference to the transfer to the American flag of the China Merchant's Steamers I have the honour to say that your instruction has been carefully considered.

I

I am gratified to know that the Department recognizes the fact that the sale of these ships to an American house was a bona-fide transaction, and that before the sale was consummated the Legation was assured that the parties to it had complied with the forms of law.

In regard to the carrying of the tribute rice to which you refer, I have to say that an arrangement has been effected which I think will prevent any collision of interests between the three companies who now practically control the coasting and river trade of China.

Although

Although in purchasing the China Merchants Navigation Company's franchise and property the American interest would have had control of the carrying of the tribute rice, it was found that its transportation at the specified time would have been a serious strain upon the resources of the company. It was also thought best, and in this opinion I concur, not to invite the business antagonism that might have arisen by the American company maintaining its monopoly. An arrangement has therefore been made by which 500,000 piculs annually are carried by the American

American company, and the remainder divided between the other two companies giving each 350,000 piculs.

This arrangement prevents, I think, business conflicts. It leaves the American company free to develope its interests and as the largest commercial coasting fleet in the China seas and inland waters, is now under the American flag the Legation trusts that this supremacy will be maintained.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Russell Clayton

Approved
Despatch
Mr. Edwards
Consular

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 25 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

609

One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 31st December, 1882.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Reply to Department's despatch N°357,
of October 31, 1882.

Synopsis.

No apprehension of American interests in Shanghai and Hongkong being imperiled. Instructions to the Consuls to open registration lists for inscription of property owned by Americans within their consular jurisdiction.

N°. 609. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 31st. December, 1884.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch N°. 357, of October 31, 1884, I have the honor to say that the Legation can add nothing to what was said by the Department in the letter from Mr. Hunter, forming an enclosure to your despatch, dated October 30, 1884, and addressed to Messrs. Lanman and Kemp.

The Legation anticipates no contingency arising out of events between

between China and France that would imperil American interests in Shanghai and Hongkong. As you say, Hongkong is under the British flag and there are ships of no country will remain at peace with Great Britain. So far as Shanghai is concerned, I note in the public prints an assurance to Lord Granville on the part of Monsieur Jules Ferry that the French will not disturb neutral interests. So far, therefore, as the question raised by Messrs Lamman and Kemp is concerned, it does not assume, nor do I apprehend that it will assume, practical shape.

Noting,

Noting, however, the suggestion contained in the last paragraph of Mr. Hunter's letter, I thought it best to convey to the Consuls the wishes of the Department as to what might be a wise precaution in regard to the safeguard of American property in China. I enclose a copy of my despatch to the Consuls. 1/609.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Jno. Russell Young

Inclosure.

1. Mr. Young to Mr. Stahel.

No. 215. December 31, 1884.

Copy.

N°. 215.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 31st. December, 1884.

General Julius Stahel,
Consul-General of the United States,
Shanghai.

Sir,

The Honorable Secretary of State sends to the Legation a correspondence between the Department and a business firm in New York in reference to "the possible destruction of property" at certain Chinese ports. The question is asked whether there is any system of registration at U.S. Consulates as to the value of American property, as a method of securing protection or indemnity. The Department says "Registration

of

of property of neutrals in their consulates would be a good evidence of ownership and the precaution might properly be taken."

Although no rules for such registration are prescribed by the United States, the Department believes that the filing of a list in the consulate might be an advantage. You may therefore say to the Americans in your jurisdiction who own property in China that if they choose to avail themselves of the suggestion they will find it an additional assurance of protection, and that your consulate general will render them every assistance for doing so.

You will please bring

the

the above suggestions to the notice of the Consuls, and instruct them as to the best method for carrying them out.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) Jho. Russell Young.

No. 610

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Inclosure

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 5, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject.

The "Peking Gazette" makes use of the
expression "foreign barbarian."—

N° 610. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 5, 1884.

Hon. Fred^k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State,
Washington. D. C.

Sir,

Some time since a "Peking Gazette", was issued, in which the Chinese characters 夷 (i) for "foreign barbarian" was used in reference to foreigners. As in the early treaties the use of this term was prohibited, as an epithet of opprobrium, it was thought best to call the attention of the Yamen to the subject. This was done by H. E. Monsieur van Brandt representing the

the Diplomatic Body.

I enclose a translation of the Ministers reply. It seems to be entirely satisfactory as disavowing any intent on the part of the Ministers of applying an offensive term to our people. It was thought best not to pursue the matter any further.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Enclosure.

1- The Tsungli Yamen to Mons. von Brandt. N: 2/1885.

The Tsungli Yamen to Mr. van Brandt.

Kwangsu, 10th year, 9th moon, 19th day

His Excellency

Monsieur van Brandt.

Peking.

Regarding the affair of the manuscript Peking Gazette mentioned to us by Your Excellency the other day at the Yamên, we beg to say that the incident alluded to by Your Excellency has also caused to our Yamên a feeling of uneasiness.

The Gazette Offices have now already been instructed to substitute in the printed Gazettes the correct character instead of the one erroneously employed.

Whilst

Whilst informing Your Excellency of the above in reply to your letter, we avail ourselves of this opportunity, &c., &c.,

Mr. Blackburn

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

W. E. Edwards

No. 611. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 6, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Legation telegram account for
month of December, 1884.

N°. 611. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 6, 1885.

Hon. Fred^k. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith a statement of the telegram account of the Legation for the month of December, 1884, duly supported with the usual vouchers — amounting to Thirty one dollars and thirty-seven cents ($31.37) U.S. gold currency. 1/611.

I have drawn upon the Department for the amount due, and trust that my draft will be

be duly honored.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Edward Grey

Inclosure.

1- Telegram account for December 1884.

A.

Cipher Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Tell Russell Ma audience
Emperor ordered return Tientsin.

(Signed) Young.

Peking. December 14, 1884.

B.

Cipher Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Telegraph Admiral Davis most important Legation kept well informed of Inouye's mission to Corea. Suggest man. of. war there until trouble over.

(Signed) Young.

Peking. December 23, 1884.

C

Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Open and forward.

(Signd) Young.

Peking, December 31, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 612

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 7th 1885.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject
China and France.

Synopsis.

Mr Young reports a
conversation with the
Prince in regard to affairs
between China and France.

No. 612.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 7th 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

I had a conversation with the Prince, a day or two ago, in regard to public affairs. The interview was sought by me mainly for information as I had no special business to transact with His Highness. After the exchange of the usual courtesies, I asked His Highness whether

the

the Imperial Government showed any disposition to recede from the policy which now seemed to prevail, of strenuous and even warlike opposition to France.

His Highness said that Lekina had made every overture to France, looking towards peace, that was possible, and she must now defend her honor and her dominions Lekina had no desire to make war upon France or any other nation, but she could not, without protest at least, be

compelled

compelled ever to submit to injustice.

I expressed my regret at this resolution, not that I permitted myself to question the right of His Highness to defend his country in his own way, but that war was always to be regarded with concern.

The Prince said that Lehina was not making war, she was simply defending herself against injustice and wrong.

I asked His Highness

Highness what view the Imperial Government took of the Fournier Tientsin convention, whether events had affected its potency. The Prince replied that France had initiated that agreement by her conduct in Formosa and at Foo Chow. China would have made peace on the terms therein conceded to France, yielding to what he knew to be an injustice, in the interest of peace. For this, she would have conceded the coveted provinces of Annam and

Tonquin

Tonquin. Now it is another matter. France is not satisfied with this concession. She wants money, and breaks the peace to extort money. China might even have paid money to secure peace, but since Kelung and Tamsui, she would not pay a penny. Moreover, she intended to reassert her sovereign rights in the South, those rights she was willing to have given to France in the interest of peace, and do her best to maintain them. Military operations were

in

in active progress. China would pay no attention to the Vienna convention. France had killed it.

I asked the Prince whether he had heard of the declaration of M. Jules Ferry, that France would take and hold Formosa.

His Highness said that he knew of it. That declaration, however, did not affect the Imperial purpose. It was one thing to take Formosa, and another to hold it. France had not taken it yet. China would

would defend Formosa, as she was now defending Tonquin.

I expressed my regret that I could not find, in the sentiments of His Highness, any suggestion that might be construed into a hope that a peaceful arrangement could be made.

His Highness said that no one knew better than myself, what had been the real aim of China in this whole affair, and how far she was willing to go for

peace

peace. France had made peace impossible, and from France must come the suggestion of an arrangement.

I send you a minute of this conversation as showing the spirit dominating the government. The disasters in the South have made no impression upon the cabinet. The judgment is that Li Hung Chang would gladly make a peace upon terms more favorable to France than the Fournier convention. He sees more clearly than any statesman in the

Empire

Empire, the possible outcome of a struggle between China and France. But as war is the cry, he does not care to imperil his position by a policy of dissonance, and his declarations are even more bearlike than those of the Prince.

The Prince was most gracious and repeatedly asked me to express to you his high sense of the goodwill shown to Lekina by the United States, during this controversy with France, and the gratitude of the

Emperor

Emperor for your unceasing
friendship.

I have the honor to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant

Th. Russell Gurney

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

No 613. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 7, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Prince, President of the Foreign Office and other officials make a New Year's call at the Legation.

No. 613. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 7, 1885.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

On Tuesday the 6th instant the Prince, President of the Tsung-li Yamên, the Ministers and other officials whose names and rank are given in the enclosed list, called at the Legation to offer their wishes for the New Year, and were entertained, at what might be called an informal luncheon. 1/613

The Prince expressed his gratification at the friendly relations which

which existed between the United States and China, and his conviction that the New Year would but strengthen the amicable feelings already established between the two countries.

I replied to H. I. H. that the policy of my government and the instructions given to me had been to develope by every means friendly relations between the two countries, and that all my endeavors had tended to that end. I expressed the wish that the New Year would bring all happiness to China. I made special inquiry as to the health of H. M. the Emperor, and was told that he was in good health, and busy in preparing himself

himself to assume the active duties of sovereignty. I ventured to say that this information would be gratifying to the President.

The conversation was confined to social topics, and, after an interesting and agreeable conversation, the Prince and his retinue left to call on the other Ministers.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Richard Cleveland Cary.

Inclosure.

1- List as above.

Inclosure 1

List of Ministers and other officials who made a New Year's call at the Legation.

H. I. H. Cheng Chun Wang.
Chief of the Tsungli Yamen, etc, etc.,
Jeng Cheng hsin. Member of the
Tsungli Yamen.
Hsü Yung i. do.
Jung Hwei. Junior Vice President
Board of Civil office.
Chang Chia hsiang. Junior Vice President
Board of Civil office.
Hsü Yung Kwei. Senior Vice President
Board of Civil Office.
Lin Shu. Acting President of the
Board of Revenue.

Chou

Chan Chiang wei. Acting Governor
of the Imperial Prefecture of
Shun Tien fu (the region
enclosing the Imperial capital)

Ching Shan. Junior Vice President
of the Board of Revenue.

Hsü Tang. President of the Board of
Civil Office and Chancellor
of the Han lin college.

Ngen Cheng. President of the Board
of civil office, and assistant
Grand Secretary.

Ling Kwei. Grand Secretary, Chancellor
of the Han lin College.

Yen Ching Meng. Member of the
Foreign Office, President of the
Board of Revenue.

Hsü K'ang shen. Member of the
Foreign Office. Junior Vice
President

President Board of Punishment.

Pi Tao Yuan. President of the Board of Ceremonies.

Ching Lin. Senior Vice President of the Board of Ceremonies.

Ching Sin. Junior Vice President of the Board of Ceremonies.

Wu da Shan Tsung Ah. President of the Board of War.

Yueh Nien. Senior Vice President of the Board of War.

Shih Tseng. Junior Vice President of the Board of War.

Kuei Chuan. Senior Vice President of the Board of Punishment.

Hsueh Yin Sheng. Senior Vice President of the Board of Punishment.

Hsi Chen. President of the Board

Board of Punishment,
Member of the Foreign Office.

Fu K'iin - President Board of
Works. Member of the Foreign
Office. General Commandant
of the gendarmerie.

Wëng Tung ho. President of the
Board of Works.

Hsi Ching. Junior Vice-President
of the Board of Works.

Kuei K'ang - President of the Mongolian
Superintendency.

Ah Chang Ah. Senior Vice-President of
the Mongolian Superintendency.

Yueh Lin. Junior Vice-President,
do.

Kuei Jün. President Board of Censors.

Pai Huan. Senior Vice-President, do.

Ying Hsü - Junior Vice President, do.

Letter
Subject
No. 614 March 17th
Cipher

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Wm Evarts

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 7th January, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The China Merchants' Steam Navigation
Company's Transfer.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young reports his successful
intervention to prevent the
censure of Na Jaotai for his efforts
to effect the transfer of the China
Merchants' Steam Navigation Company
to the American Flag.

No. 614.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 7th January, 1885.

To the,
Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State.

Sir,

The circumstances attending the transfer of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company, to the American Flag, led, I am sorry to say, to many criticisms. These found expression in deprecatory articles in local newspapers, and in memorials to the Board of Censors accusing the Chinese Officials who

who took part in the transaction and asking their punishment from the Throne. There were many reasons for this resentment. The new management terminated the corrupt practices which had injured the company's usefulness. Of course, those who had profited by the evil ways of the old regime - some I am afraid, high in authority, opposed an arrangement which interfered with their gain. There were other influences, perhaps some more powerful even than those to which I have referred, which had access to Chinese sources of authority.

The Chinese official who had been most conspicuous in the transfer of the company was Ma, Tao-t'ai.

I

I learned from Tientsin and in Shanghai that those who were inimical to the transaction finding that it could not be revoked, intended, in Chinese fashion, to deal with Ma as a victim and impeach him. Ma, was known to be a protege of Li, and there were many who while not caring about the steamers, disliked the Viceroy, and would welcome an opportunity to strike him through his friend. I was earnestly requested to use the influence of the Legation to endeavour to counteract the purposes of those who sought to punish Ma, for what I regarded as his perfectly innocent and honourable part in the undertaking.

Ma,

Ma Tsut'ai being a Chinese official, the task was a delicate one. The Department will perhaps remember that before this transaction was consummated, I received from the Prince and the Viceroy Li, assurances that the Government was in no way opposed to it. On the contrary the Ministers saw the danger of the fleet being captured by the French, and losing it altogether, if it remained under the Chinese Flag. These high officials were good enough to say, that if the transfer had to be made, much as they might regret it, there was no flag they would rather see than the Flag of the United States.

A Decree was issued from the

the Throne ordering Ma to come to Peking. This was understood to be the work of his enemies. He came in much fear. I did not think it prudent to see him. In this suspicious society where every movement of a Minister is watched and made a matter of gossip, I was afraid that personal attention on my part would do him harm. Feeling, however, in a certain degree, responsible for his protection, I sent Mr. Rockhill, of our Legation to offer him any service. Mr. Rockhill found Ma living in a small inn in the Chinese city, seeking apparently the utmost seclusion, and awaiting an audience from the Emperor.

In an informal and unofficial way,

way, I intimated to the Prince, that while I did not wish to interfere between the Throne and a Chinese official, there were reasons why I should not fail to express an opinion as to the circumstances under which Mo Yautai had been summoned to Peking. If that official was to be arraigned or degraded for the transfer of the China Merchants Steam Navigation Company such an act would be a reflection upon our Legation, and might be construed into a want of candour on the part of His Highness, and the Yamên, considering the assurances they had given me, and under which assurances I had acted.

The Prince made no reply to

to my communication. It was an
informal and needed no answer. —
But within a day or two, there came
a Decree from the Throne, alluding
to the fact that Moa had had an
audience and directing him to
return to Tientsin. This was
virtually his perfect acquittal and
a release from all trouble. He sent
me from Tientsin a grateful
message for the interest I had
taken in his behalf. When I next
saw the Prince I expressed the
thanks of the Legation, for the
justice and consideration shewn
by the Throne to one whom I
believed to be an honourable
and unjustly accused man.

I

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Thos. Russell Young

Enclosure with Young's despatch No. 615 of this date.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

W. Edwards

No. 615.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January, 8th, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Blockade of Formosa.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young refers to newspaper publications notifying the Blockade of Formosan Ports, mentioning the non receipt of official communications of such blockade by the Legations in Peking or by Admiral Davis

Davis. British Admiral seems better informed, having approved a Notification of blockade issued by the Consul at Amoy, without, however, the knowledge of the British Legation at Peking.

No. 615.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January, 8th, 1885.

To the

Honorable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

There are many newspaper publications, some of them in the form of advertisements apparently emanating from French officials notifying a Blockade of Formosa, by the French. No official communication to that effect has been made to this or any other Legation

Legation by the French Minister - although Mr. Patenôtre is in Shanghai, and of course possessed with the purposes of his Government. I presume you have received a notification from Paris. In the absence of any instruction from the Department to the effect that a blockade of Formosa has been proclaimed or maintained, or even that it has existed, I have not felt it my duty to take official cognizance of these newspaper announcements. Nor have I heard from the Admiral that the French naval Commander-in-Chief has made such an announcement

announcement to him. The Admiral commanding Her Britannic Majesty's forces, however, is evidently better informed as it appears that he has approved a notification to the following effect issued by the British Consul at Amoy:-

"The French Commander-in-chief having notified a blockade of the Formosan ports by the ships under his orders, this clearance is issued subject to any regulations which may be made by the French Naval Authorities in Formosa.

"The vessel should stop when near any French war ship on blockading the Port of . . . . . .

"and

"and submit to a search without protest.

"If the French Authorities object to the vessel communicating with the port she must retire at once."

It would undoubtedly be a convenience, to know officially either from China or France, or from both Powers, the exact nature of their relations. I have pressed the Prince to give me an official statement that War has been declared against France by China, but he refuses. I have not learned that France regards herself at War with China. One would think from an American point

of

of view, that to sink a fleet, bombard an arsenal, destroy forts, and occupy ports, would be regarded as acts of war. China and in France accept these facts, but give them another construction. In the meantime friendly nations, anxious to shew their friendship and neutrality, are embarrassed as to their duties to both Powers.

When I spoke of the above notification to Sir Harry Parkes, the impression he left upon my mind, was that he had not seen it, and that the Consul at Amoy had issued it at the instance of the Admiral and without the knowledge of the Legation.

Legation.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

No. 616. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 8, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Consular affairs at Chefoo.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards a correspondence between the Consul at Chefoo and the Legation concerning certain disbursements for improvement of Consular premises.

No. 616. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 8, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I inclose for the information of the Department, a correspondence with Mr. Platt, our consul at Chefoo. Although the letter of Mr. Platt is private, the extracts I forward contain nothing that may not with propriety be communicated to the Department. It is better also that Mr. Platt should tell his story in his own way. 2/616.

The re-establishment

6

of Chefoo as a consulate, was a wise act. My reasons for this belief were given in detail in my despatches N°. 47, dated October 23, 1882, and N°. 561, dated October 29, 1884. Although I do not attach so much importance to Chefoo, as I do to ports like Canton and Tientsin, there are commercial, and in some senses, political reasons why it should be made a useful consulate. These reasons I may briefly recapitulate. Chefoo is the northern rendez-vous in China, for all the men-of-war. It is the port, farthest north on the Chinese coast, open all the year round. Trading vessels from the south to Tientsin and Newchwang stop at

at Chefoo, and recent events give us an important interest in this trade, a trade which certainly requires the care of a faithful consul. Again we have an important missionary station in Chefoo, and others in the towns and villages adjoining. In the summer months, Chefoo is the watering place of Northern China, and the residence of many American citizens.

Mr. Platt is a good consul, and especially zealous to serve our interests. He has had much experience in China. It would appear that he has made many sacrifices to improve his consulate. As I know from personal observation,

he

he takes a great pride in his office, and I am strongly of the opinion that these efforts should have due recognition, and that he should be enabled to maintain his position with comfort and dignity.

Mr. Platt asks the Legation to give him authority to make certain disbursements. As the Department has forbidden them, I have no power to do so, without incurring a personal responsibility to Mr. Platt. I trust most sincerely that the Department will give the matter further consideration, and see its way to establish the Chefoo consulate upon a basis that will enable the incumbent

to

to render the government due service.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Richard Young

Inclosures.

1. Mr. Platt to Mr. Young.
   Dec. 29th 1884 6/1885.
2. Mr. Young to Mr. Platt.
   January 8, 1885 5/1885.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Inclosure 1

Mr Platt to Mr Young.

Chefoo, Dec. 29th 1884

Dear Mr Young,

I had not expected to so soon bother you with private communications after my last letter, and indeed it has taxed me a day or so to make up my mind whether I should frame a despatch on what I have now to say or not, but select this method as it does not oblige you in reply to treat the matter from a strictly official stand point. If a despatch dated

the

the 25th of July, I wrote to the Department, that pending instructions, I had felt obliged to retain the services of a Chinese writer and interpreter at a salary of $50.00 a month, and I explained the general nature of my services here as the reason for taking such action prior to obtaining the usual approval. I also, more as a formality than with any idea there might be a doubt about my right to it, requested permission to retain the "judicial allowance" made the late agency of $480.00 a year

for

for the wages of a constable ($300.00) and rent of court room ($180.00) You can imagine my feelings when I received a reply on Dec. 19th refusing to make any allowance whatever for interpreter, writer, constable, rent or furniture as "Lehfoo was a fee'd consulate."

I need not pause to point out to you that this decision places the consulate on a worse footing than the late agency by $480.00 a year, and deprives it of an abiding place and the services of an officer. Of course the promotion of Lehfoo to

consular

consular rank does not alter its fee bills or increase them by a dollar, so one is at a loss to see what advantage come with this very hibernian promotion. On the other hand my books show what a blow I have received. what a burden I have put upon myself. I came back with the silly idea my commission meant something. that I had a position to maintain and the honor of the government to protect. I allowed a comparative stranger to come into this field of practice and gather in the richest fruit because I would not hamper my official life by anything that might cause

me

me to fail is my duty to the Govt.
When my partner went home
last March, what prevented me
from taking over his appointment
as Customs medical officer
except this consulate and had
I done so, what a fool I should
have been to bring upon myself
the danger of dismissal by
questioning the right of the
Commissioner to fine a steamer,
or battling with the Taotai for
Russell & Co's. claims. By my
determined position over $9000
have been collected of
debts due to foreign merchants
at a cost to myself of the
goodwill of every officer, native
or foreign, in Chinese employ.

What

What figure should I have cut if, when a claim had to be presented, I had been barred by "pressure" from the customs, or with what respect should I have been received at the Yamen when the Tsotai remembered that his consular guest was after all only his paid subordinate! What other motives think you induced me to surrender my hospital, which paid me last year over Tls 1000, than the status which rendered me liable to prosecution if I as a consul had any interest in one. And so one by one. I have let the golden sands slip between my fingers selling or rather casting from me

me all my pearls. that I might be worthy to hold and retain this single one and now that I have lost my all, and sick and puble, turn to the one trust to which I have been faithful for comfort and support, I find it an empty, false, stage sham! Indeed M. Young, I am very serious. I cannot support the burden for another single month. The cost of maintaining this consulate for six months, as I have done is $570.00. the fees are $55.70/100. so I have had a hard six months work and am $2000. to the bad. You know I work. I am foolish, may be,

but

but I think I work as hard as any $3,500 man, and harder than some of them, and why in the name of God the Dept. select me from the entire consular corps to be their unpaid galley slave, is something I can not be made to understand by any argument. I am not likely to live very long, as you are aware. I have no life insurance or other provision for my wife. I am deeply in debt and my professional income, never very heavy, has been greatly curtailed by my official disabilities. Justice to my wife and my creditors demands of me that I use

my

my last efforts to better advantage and that I at once curtail all expense connected with this consulate. I consider it my duty, however, to first inform you of my purpose because it may be that you possess the power to avoid changes which must inevitably injure our standing here. I propose to close the rooms hitherto set aside as the government offices and for which a separate rental was paid. I shall dismiss the constable and also the interpreter as soon as I hear from you. You of course, see that this last step cuts me off from

all

all communication with the local authorities and that I shall have to inform them I am no longer in a position to transact business with them. Outstanding claims must go unsettled and things in the interior must go on as best they may. Since the fees are not equal to the expenditure I am not to be expected to help the Dept. out of my pocket I assume. I of course mean to resign my office and that at once.

The Dept. must adopt one of two courses, failing to arrange with me, either they must

send out a new man properly paid and allowanced, which step I do not see will improve matters greatly, or they must employ one of the foreign merchants to take over the consulate and who is there here suited for the position? It is no sinecure but one of hard honest work, constant vigilance and great responsibility and I doubt if any body would accept the trust for the fees. There is no American to succeed me and I cannot see what will be the result. In this emergency do you

feel

feel disposed to lay the matter before the Secr. in the interests of all concerned, quite understanding that I am to be at once relieved, if no provision is made for the past heavy yearly expenses and for the future?

Do you feel justified in instructing me to retain the offices and my staff pending such representations as I have requested?

Yours &c.

(signed) A.R. Platt.

Inclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Platt.
5/1885. January 8, 1885.

Dear Doctor,

Yours of December 29, 1884, has just arrived. I am sorry that the affairs of your consulate are not in better form. I trust that when the recommendations I have submitted to the Department are considered, you will find your wishes realized. I cannot impress upon the Department more strongly than I have done, the necessity of having Chefoo, as a consulate, in a state of efficiency. It has been a pleasure also for me

me to say to the Department how well you have done your work, and to acknowledge your zeal in protection of American interests. I write by this mail another despatch, and would advise you to take no action until you have a reply. I have made extracts from your letter, so as to present your case in your own words. To this I have added my earnest official endorsement.

Yours very sincerely

(Signed) Thos. Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 617. Eight enclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 9th 1885.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

Subject.

Dr. Ashmore's fishery case at Swatow.

Synopsis.

The Taotai having imprisoned one of Dr. Ashmore's servants Mr. Young remonstrates with the Prince and ministers of the Foreign Office.

No. 617 Eight enclosures

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State

Washington, D.C.

Sir:

In my despatch No. 533, dated October 22 1884, I referred to the settlement, at Swatow, of the claim of the Rev. Dr. Ashmore for certain fisheries, which had been taken from him by the Chinese authorities. The Department will remember that the consuls of Great

Britain

Britain and the Netherlands, as arbitrators, made an award which was paid to Dr. Ashmore.

Dr. Ashmore was apprehensive that the authorities would punish his Chinese agents or servants, who had been in charge of the fisheries. He was as solicitous for their safety as for the recovery of his property and would not I think, have assented to any arrangement which left them at the mercy of the authorities.

Accordingly, in my conversations

conversations with the Taotai, I made an express stipulation that no harm should come to the Chinese who had been in charge of the fisheries, as Dr. Ashmore's agents or tenants.

This assurance was given. It was, therefore, with great regret that I received from Dr. Ashmore a letter, forming enclosure No. 3, in which the Legation was informed that the Taotai had not kept this assurance, but had imprisoned one of his servants

servants on some frivolous
plea. I wrote Baron von
Seckendorff, the German
consul, who represents
our interests in Swatow,
complaining of this as
a breach of faith on the
part of the Taotai, and
asking the release of
Dr. Ashmore's agent.
I said to the Baron,
furthermore, that unless
this request was granted,
I should make it a
matter of serious
remonstrance with the
Prince.

Baron von Seckendorff
telegraphs that the Taotai

refuses

refuses my request,
keeps the man in prison
and menaces other agents
of Dr. Ashmore with
imprisonment.

It is a delicate
business to interfere
between the Chinese
authorities and their own
people. And if this
imprisonment had been
a consequence of some
infraction of Chinese
law, I would have felt
that it was no concern
of mine. On the
contrary it was an act
of persecution, and
above all it was a distinct

violation

violation of an agreement made with the Taotai and without which, I would not have considered the question as closed.

I therefore addressed a note to the Prince and ministers of the Yamen, a copy of which I enclose. I trust that this action will meet with your approval.

The Department will note in enclosure No. 4 that Sr. Ashmore is not altogether satisfied with the results of the award made in his favor by the

Consuls

consuls of Great Britain
and the Netherlands.
In my reply enclosure
No. 5 I explained to the
reverend gentleman my
reasons for the conviction
that his matter had been
settled upon an equitable
basis. The tribunal
was irreproachable. It
was composed of high
and responsible officials,
personal friends of the
Dr. impartial, acquainted
with property value in
Smatow and conversant
with the whole affair.
If such a tribunal does
not answer every demand

of

of justice, I despair of ever seeing one that will do so.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Enclosures.

1. Mr Seckendorff to Mr Young. No. 44 Oct. 14/84
2. Mr Young to Mr Seckendorff. No. 5. Nov. 15/84
3. Mr Ashmore to Mr Young. Oct 17/84
4. " " Oct 17/84
5. Mr Young in reply No 112/1884 Nov 10/84
6. No 113/1884 Nov. 10/84

7. Mr Seckendorff to Mr Young.
Telegram. Jan 2/85.
8. Mr Young to the Foreign
Office.
No. 1/1885 Jan. 9./85

No. 44. Enclosure 1

Baron Seckendorff to Mr Young.

Swatow, Oct. 14th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 2. dated, Peking, August 25th, 1884. in regard to the Settlement of the "Ashmore Fishery case", and the claim of this gentleman against the Chinese Government.

It remains for me now to express to you my most sincere thanks for the way in which you have taken notice of the small service I have been able to render to the United States Government and to Mr. Ashmore and for the kind words you wrote to His Excellency the German Minister about me and my co-operation in connection with this affair and I can only reassure you that it will always

always afford me the greatest
pleasure to render any service
whatever in my power to the United
States, which I have the honour to
represent at this port. —

I have &c

(Signed) Baron von Seckendorff. —
U. S. Consular Agent.

No. 5. Enclosure 2.

Mr Young to Baron von Seckendorff.

15th November, 1884.

Dear Baron,

I am in receipt of your favour of Oct. 22nd, and likewise of a personal and official letter from Dr Ashmore in regard to events at Swatow. I am sorry that Dr Ashmore is not quite satisfied with the results of the arbitration, but I am sure that the best that could have been done, was done. There could not have been a fairer and better informed tribunal than the two Consuls, nor from what I saw in Swatow, a more zealous advocate than yourself.

In regard to the annoyance of Dr Ashmore's servants, his compradore and others, I have a right to complain. It was understood between myself and the Taotai, that the arrangement we matured should close the affair,

that

that there should be no further questions, no annoyance of the Chinese Servants of H. Eshmore, and furthermore that there should be a proclamation issued, deprecating, the prosecution of Chinese converts to the Christian religion. It is, of course, not a part of my duty to interfere between the Chinese Authorities and Her Majesty's subjects. And in my conversation with the Taot'ai, as you will remember, I made no demand, but rested my requests upon considerations of friendship and equity, - saying that I was sure that my Government would rejoice to hear that H. E. had taken so liberal and just a course, he promised me he would take, and that it would give me great pleasure to express my satisfaction to the Prince and members of the Yamên.

The Taot'ai was at liberty to decline my suggestions, leaving me free to adopt some other method for attaining them. He gave me his promise

that

that what I requested should be done. I have relied upon that assurance. To learn now, that the Taotai has violated this agreement gives me much pain.

I shall be obliged if you will say this to the Taotai, and say further that unless I learn from you by telegraph on the receipt of this, that the prisoners have been released, and all proceedings in the way of persecution abandoned, I shall bring the matter to the attention of the Prince and Yamên, as a breach of faith on his part. This I do not care to do. My recollection of the Taotai are most pleasant, I learned to hold him in esteem. I am sure, that in his action he has been badly advised. If he will consider the matter again, he will see that nothing could be more unfortunate than the course of action which I cannot but regard as a grave violation of an honourable understanding

understanding

I am Lee

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosure. 3

Mr. Ashmore to Mr. Young.

Swatow, Oct. 17th, 1884.

Sir,

When you were in Swatow and took in hand the settlement of the Sue Bue Fishery case, I had an assurance from you that exemption from persecution and further harrassment should be secured for those who had sold to me or had leased the fishery from me, and that such exemption should be an integral part of the settlement. After your departure Baron von Seckendorff Consular Agent here further assured me that such exemption had been secured; and that you had exacted and received from the Taotai an explicit pledge that the parties above referred to should thereafter be unmolested in any way, on account of their connection

with

with my property, and especially that they should not again be summoned before any tribunal nor be subjected to any prosecution.

That pledge on the part of this Taotai has not been kept. The Chinese authorities remained quiet until after the arbitration money had been paid and the papers, title deeds and proclamations relating to the property were in their hands. As soon as I was deprived in this way of the means of vindication they renewed their prosecutions.

They have now commenced active operations and have one poor man, a relative of the man who sold to me, arrested and in prison. I am informed that the arrest of the others is to be followed in due time, and also that the object of this is to extort the amount of the arbitration money from those who have in any way been connected with me in the matter of this property.

I therefore beg to remind Your

Excellency

Excellency of the assurances given to me by yourself and the Consular agent and now appeal to you for protection. I beg that you will as soon as possible bring this violation of faith to the notice of the Tsung li-Yamên, or take such other steps as may be essential to the securing of the object desired.—

I have &c

(signed) W. Ashmore.

Private. Enclosure. 4

Mr. Ashmore to Mr. Young.

Swatow, Oct. 17th, 1884.

Dear Mr. Young.

It is not my fault that you are troubled with my affairs at such a time as this. These perfidious mandarins are bent on harming every body connected with this matter. I have relied upon your assurance that cruel and malignant prosecution should be stopped. But for this assurance given by you, I should have asked the return of my papers. But because I had your assurance and that of Baron von Seckendorff, officials of my own Government to whom I must go, I made up my mind not to trouble you with some things wherein I thought that my own rights and position as an American citizen, and the lawful holder of that property were unfavorably affected by the mode of settlement. The reference

6

of the case to arbitrators was a
surprise to me, for I had not given
my consent to that for reasons which
I can give.

Furthermore the two arbitrators
virtually settled the case in their own
minds without hearing my side of the
case - I know this from Mr Phillips
himself - I happened to be at his
house some few days after you
left. I was walking with him on
the verandah. Baron von Seckendorff
and some other members of the commu-
nity were in the other room awaiting
the hour for a called meeting on the
"land question". - Mr Phillips remarked
to me that he and Mr Hill had decided
upon the sum to be paid to me. - I
started back in astonishment "What"!
I said, "without making enquiry -
"about the value of the place"? He replied
that they had made enquiry of outside
parties and were quite satisfied. -
The outside parties were Chinese -

I

I asked him whether he felt at liberty to tell me the amount. He replied that the Chinese had already asked him that question and he had refused to tell them. I supposed his reason to be that he wished to communicate the result officially first. I wondered then, and have wondered ever since, "who were those Chinese who knew "so soon of a decision having been "reached?"

Turning away from Mr. Phillips I went and spoke to Baron von Seckendorff asking him if he knew of a decision having been reached. He said - "Not yet". I told him what had just been said. He quickly turned and walking away had some earnest conversation with Mr. Phillips. Presently he came back to me saying "Oh, they are to see me to-morrow". They did go the next day, and I believe that through the Baron's representations they made some change in the amount.

amount, but it is true nevertheless that they had made up their minds as above stated. Furthermore, I was told that I should be summoned as a witness, but I was not. - Nor was I given an opportunity to make a single statement in my own behalf, nor was I asked a single question. Judge for yourself whether all this was quite fair. - -

Yours truly,

(signed) W. Ashmore

No. 112/1884. Enclosure. 5

Mr. Young to Mr. Ashmore.

November, 10th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your letter dated, Oct. 17th, 1884. which I have read with concern. The Taotai certainly gave me his assurance, that there would be no molestation of the Chinese arising out of your fishery case, and unless that assurance is respected I shall make the question a serious one with the Tsungli Yamên.

I have written in this spirit to Baron von Seckendorff, and shall lay the matter before the Prince and Ministers.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

No. 113/1884. Enclosure 6

Mr. Young to Mr. Ashmore.

November, 10th, 1884.

Dear Mr. Ashmore,

I have read with some concern your of the 17th of October. As I write you officially I shall take up the case of your servants. My concern arises out of your dissatisfaction as to the settlement of the fishery claims. I wished to have the matter settled, and I could think of no more just and honourable plan than what was accepted. It was only after the severest pressure upon the Taotai at three interviews, that he agreed to my proposal. My judgment was, and is now, that there could be no fairer tribunal than the two representatives of friendly powers. They knew the case. They were your personal friends. They knew the value of the property

property. They could have no motive but to conserve your interests. The Taotai might have said and with justice, that an arbitration tribunal should have had a member of his own selection. I could not have denied such a request had it been made. The circumstances that the Taotai was willing to remit the whole case to two foreign officials named by me with no Chinese officials taking part, seemed to me a most important advantage for you.

The management of the case was left in the hands of Baron von Heckendorff. The Baron certainly shared the deepest interest in your affair when we discussed them and a desire to serve you. He knew your case and presented it. I cannot but feel that he did so in the most loyal manner.

While I should have been glad had you been awarded all the money you

you claimed, still in the conduct of public affairs and in the adjustment of questions with the Chinese, it is important to have a result, and an equitable result. Your case might have gone to the Yamên and drifted about for 20 years as other cases have drifted and are drifting. - I cannot think of a fairer mode of adjustment than what was arranged. You had a tribunal whose members were beyond reproach, and from their knowledge of Swatow, thoroughly acquainted with the subject. You had an advocate entirely devoted to your interests. - If the method adopted for the settlement of your case, did not satisfy all the ends of justice, I should despair of finding another. -

I endeavoured to serve you in this as was my duty with the utmost sincerity and good will. It is of course a disappointment that

that the award of the tribunal did not come up to your expectations. I cannot, however, refrain from the expression of the hope that in time, when you have thought it all over you will feel that what was done was all that could be done, and was done for the best.

Yours sincerely,

(signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosure 7

Telegram -

Swatow, 2nd Jan. 1885.

United States Minister

Peking.

Taotai refuses - releasing men under arrest and menaces other former tenants.

Seckendorff.

No 1/1885 Enclosure 8

Mr Young to the Tsungli Yamen
January 9th 1885

The American minister presents his compliments to H.I.H. and T. Es., the ministers of the Yamen.

Last year, in the month of May, the American minister made an official visit to Swatow. An American citizen residing in Swatow, complained that he had been deprived of certain rights in his fisheries, rights which had been acquired in an honorable manner, and which, although he had enjoyed for years, other parties had usurped them. This usurpation had been supported by the Chinese authorities. As the case was plain and the attitude of the authorities

indefensible

indefensible, the American minister had several interviews with the Taotai and remonstrated. As a result of these conversations, conducted in an amicable spirit, an arrangement was made, under which, for a fair compensation to the American owner, the fisheries reverted to the former Chinese owners, and the American minister had the satisfaction of reporting to his government that a just and equitable settlement had been attained.

As a part of the agreement between the Taotai and the American minister it was further understood that the Chinese servants and agents of the American citizen, who represented him in the care of the fisheries should not be molested.

This

This assurance was an essential part of the understanding. The American minister would never have accepted it without this express stipulation. He felt that he was in honor bound to do what he could to protect those who had done no harm, except so far as they served as American citizens in the management of his property.

After leaving Tratow the American minister learned to his great regret that a Chinese resident had been thrown into prison for no other reason than that he was a relation of a person who had sold the fisheries in the first instance. The American minister wrote to Tratow to remind the Tartai of his agreement to remonstrate against the breach of faith which any infraction of it

Tratow

would involve, and to ask that the imprisoned Chinaman should be released.

The American minister is now in receipt of a telegram from Baron von Teckendorff, who represents American interests in Swatow, saying that the Taotai refuses to release the prisoner and menaces with arrest others who had been tenants of the fisheries.

H.M. and the ministers are well aware, that the American minister would not take any step that might look like an interference between the Chinese and their own laws. And if the Chinese subject now under arrest at Swatow had committed any offense against Chinese law it would not be for this legation

to

to interfere. But the question is different. It is one of an honorable understanding between the Taotai and the Legation. This has been violated by the Taotai's refusing to abide by his own promise, clearly and frankly given not to molest those who had in charge of the property.

This imprisonment and threats of further imprisonment constitute a breach of faith which can not be overlooked without a serious remonstrance.

The American minister therefore appeals to H. M. and the ministers and asks that instructions be sent to Foochow directing the Taotai to release the person now in custody and directing him to respect in good faith the understanding which exists between that

official

official, and the Legation.

The American Minister avails himself of this opportunity to renew to H. E. and S. E. the ministers of the Yamen, the assurances of his highest consideration

Copy to the Tyler.
Low under of
Dec 6. 1884
No 363 cancel
this

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No 618.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 9th 1885

W. Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Opium Question. Foochow

Synopsis
W. Young's further reference
to the above question.

No 618.

Legation of the United States.

Peking January 9th 1885.

Hon: Frdk. T Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

In my despatch No 525, dated October 17th, 1884, I had the honor to send you an enclosure from W. Ringalé, our Consul at Foochow, in regard to the carrying of opium under the American flag. 1/618.

I informed W. Ringalé that the question had been submitted to the Department. As it had not assumed practical shape in Foochow, I did not feel, in the absence of any statute, carrying out

out the provisions of the Treaty that awaiting your instructions I could do more than call the attention of our people to the terms of the convention.

As the question however has not yet assumed a practical shape, any opinion the Legation might express would be a matter of speculation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Enclosure.

1. W. Kinaʻole to W. Young. No 107 dated October 27th 1884.

No. 107. Enclosure

Mr. Knigate to Mr. Young.

October, 27th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches numbered 76. 77. 78. 79. 80 and 81.

I specially note the opinion of the Honourable Secretary of State regarding the use and abuse of transit passes, as made known by the enclosure with your despatch No. 80. I am happy to believe that there has been no attempt on the part of any American citizen at Foochow to abuse the privilege which the treaty gives us in regard to transit passes.

The reference by H. E., to the Department of State, of the questions regarding the transportation and sale of opium which were raised by my despatch No. 104, fully relieves me of any embarrassment which

I

I might feel should the matter come practically before me.

Very little has occurred since my last despatch of sufficient importance to be reported to you.

Several complaints have been made to me regarding persecution of native Christians in the Fuchuen District. There can be little if any doubt that the ill disposed have taken advantage of the embarrassment of the Provincial Authorities to oppress and rob the native Christians, and that they have been encouraged so to do by the assurance of the Yamên runners that the Christians would receive no redress. I have brought several cases of persecution to the attention of the Authorities, and I have their assurance that orders will be given to secure the just treatment of the converts. I hope the suffering and annoyance to which the innocent are exposed will at least

be

be diminished by the action which I may induce the officials to take.

Knowing that the Viceroy, Ho, was to leave Foochow soon, I early in the month requested Lin, Taotai, to call on me to consult regarding several pending questions might not go over to the new administration. Lin came to see me on the 10th but as he brought Pan, Taotai, with him I told him I could not talk business. He therefore came again on the 20th

We had a three hours conversation regarding the Sites - Yenping - and other cases. The Taotai promised action in every case except that of the assault upon Rev. Mr. Sites at Yenping. He said he would tell the Viceroy what I said in regard to that. I think our conference did some little good. Already I have rec'd compensation for the Chapel of the American Board Mission which was looted by soldiers on the 24th August.

The

The new Viceroy, Yang, arrived in the city on the afternoon of the 25th instant, and will take the seals of office this afternoon. He brought with him 2500 soldiers. Tso Tsung-t'ang is expected in the city with 20,000 soldiers before the 17th prox. I have no idea that he will bring that number of men with him. Fowchow men to fill up the Hunan contingent are being enlisted and drilled here. The Viceroy, Ho, will join his family at Yenping, and then go to visit his son who is a Prefect in Kiangsi.

I have not yet been into the city, but the missionaries who come and go receive no molestation; they are merely required to give their names and nationality when passing the South-Gate. The U.S.S. "Monocacy" and H.B.M's "Midge" remain at the Settlement. I am very glad we have them both, at least until we can learn the policy of the new Viceroy, and can see whether

or

or not he holds the soldiers and the rowdy element well in hand.-

I have &c

(Signed) J. C. A. Mingaté.

U. S. Consul.

Wrote to Minister in charge Legation mail 1st Feb 1885 Circ

No. 619. Mch 1885 Circ

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Wm Edwards

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 10th January, 1885.

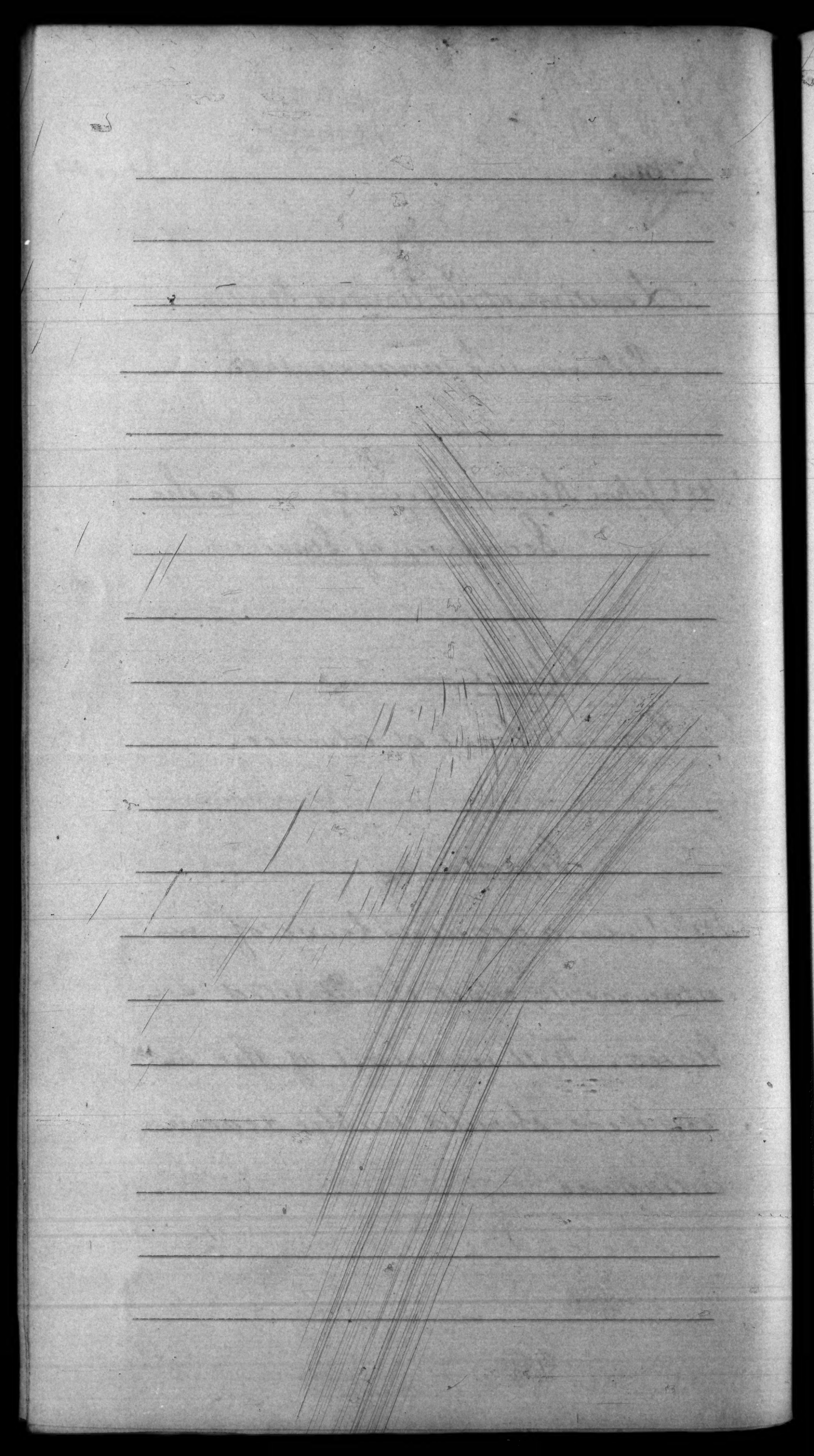
Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

— Subject. —

Requests leave of absence.

— Synopsis. —

Mr. Young requests leave of absence to visit the United States. Will not avail of the privilege should public reasons intervene.



No. 619.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 10th January, 1883.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I have the honour to request a leave of absence, with permission to return to the United States. I could not go away before the middle of March, when navigation opens. I shall then have been three years away from home. There are — domestic and business reasons,

why

why I should go home, if possible, for a time. The Department will understand that should you see fit to grant me a leave, I shall not, if public reasons supervene, avail myself of the privilege.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

Jno. Rowan Young

Confidential

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

No. 620

Act by No to file

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 10, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject:
France, Russia and China.

Synopsis.

Passive policy of Russia. Rumored occupation of Quelpart Island by Russia. Russia urging her subjects to live on Chinese soil. England may want Port Hamilton as a northern point of observation.

Confidential.

No: 620

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 10, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State,
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

Some interest in diplomatic circles, attends the attitude of Russia towards China, in her present controversy with France. The policy of Russia, so far as it can be gathered from information and observation in Peking, is a passive policy. I am not aware of an expression of opinion as to the merits of the cause from the Russian minister or his predecessor, since the trouble began. And as Russia is by no

means

means a passive power, where Asiatic questions are concerned, it is not unreasonable to assume that behind this reserve, there is a policy which events may develope.

Those who study the advance of Russian power in Asia, will see that she never fails to find her advantage in the perplexities and misfortunes of the Asiatic powers. This was especially seen in 1859, when General Ignatieff - then the Russian ambassador, by taking prompt cognizance of the fears of Prince Kung, and the necessities of China, menaced by France and England, receiving as these nations did, the moral support

of

of the United States through our Legation, achieved a large accession of territory. There was still a further concession arising out of the Kuldja trouble.

One of the rumors in regard to the purposes of Russia is that she intends to occupy the island of Quelpart - a small island with a fairly good harbor, at the entrance of the Corean strait. The value of Quelpart to Russia in the north would not be unlike that of Hong Kong to England in the south. It would be a coal depot and naval rendez-vous, and if necessary a base of operations against either China or Japan.

Should France take

Formosa

Formosa and hold it, as we are now told is the purpose of the French government, I would not be surprised to hear of the occupation of Quelpart by Russia. It is more than probable that we shall have a further "rectification of the frontier" in the Kuldja direction, thus adding to the Russian dominions. This speculation is strengthened by the fact, that the Russian government is steadily urging her subjects who live on the Chinese frontier to cross the boundary and settle on Chinese soil. The right of exterritoriality carries with it the right of protection. The right of protection makes interference at times a duty. And as a result the simplest way is to occupy the

territory

territory and save the Chinese authorities any further trouble.

We are also informed that a Russian agent has arrived in Corea - Some interest is felt as to his business there.

In conversation with the British minister, I endeavored to see what impression these rumors had made upon his mind. His Excellency appears to regard with indifference either French or Russian enterprises in China, saying that England has no concern in them. With all respect for Sir Harry Parkes, his experience, character and high qualities, any opinion he expresses as to Chinese affairs, must be qualified by the

knowledge

knowledge of his antipathy to China. In the event of Russia occupying Quelpart, and France annexing Formosa, my judgment is that England would take Port Hamilton. Sir Harry Parkes, when H. B. M's representative in Japan, was credited with a desire to add this achievement to the list of his diplomatic triumphs. The Department may remember a reference to this in my despatch No. 75, dated December 14, 1882. In one or two conversations with H. E., when I alluded to the rumor, he professed never to have heard of it. All the same, I remember that at the time I wrote you, the propriety of the annexation of Port Hamilton, was a matter

of

of comment in the English press.

It would be contrary to England's policy of colonial expansion and unlike the character of her resolute ministers to allow any special advantage to France and Russia, without in some way strengthening her own interests. Port Hamilton would never become as rich and important a colony as Hongkong - As a naval depôt, however, and a point of observation upon Russia, China and Japan, it might become another Gibraltar or Heligoland.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Thos. Rundall Esq.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 188
RECEIVED

No. 621 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Teking, January 10. 1885

Mr Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State

Subject
Science in China.

Synopsis.
Enclosing the report of an interesting paper on the subject of telephones in China.

No. 621 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 10th 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

I enclose for your information the report of an interesting paper, read before the Royal Asiatic Society in Shanghai, by Dr. Macgowan, an American citizen. From this it will be seen that the telephone, which we claim as an essentially American invention, was, like other

inventions

inventions, which have done so much for humanity anticipated in China.

I have the honor to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

R. Rudolf Lang

Enclosure

1. Report of a paper read before the Royal Asiatic Society.

A meeting of the Royal Asiatic Society was held on Monday evening at the Society's rooms in the Shanghai Museum Building, Mr E.B. Drew, President, occupying the chair. An interesting paper by Capt. Fr. Schultze was read, on the subject of the navigation of the Sungari River. The writer described the river minutely, and dwelt on the various difficulties which would be met with in navigating it, the conclusion at which he had arrived being that the river would be navigable for small paddle and twin screw steamers drawing not more than six feet.

A paper by Dr Macgowan was then read, on the subject of the early use of telephones in China. This paper being very

brief

brief, we give it in its entirety:-

"It detracts nothing from the merit of the ingenious physicists who have conferred on mankind the boon of the telephone, that its principles are familiar to unpriviliged peoples, several of whom are in possession of rudimentary telephones. It was Lopine, who'd the Chinese were in their youth that they constructed the rudimentary instrument, a specimen of which I herewith transmit for the Society's museum. It consists of two bamboo cylinders, 1½ or 2 inches in diameter and 4 in length; one end of each is closed by a tympanum of pig bladder, which is perforated for the transmitting string, the string kept in place by being knotted. This rude instrument is styled the 木聽筒 "listening tubes" and is employed for amusement as a toy, conveying whispers 40 or 50 feet. It is unknown

in many parts of the Empire. Chekiang and Kiangsu being the only provinces (so far as I can ascertain) where the "listening tube" is employed.

Besides this toy Chinese ingenuity produced about a century and a half ago, the "thousand mile spears." The instrument is described as "a roll of copper lexicon to a fife, containing an artful device; whispered into and immediately closed, the confined message, however long may be conveyed to any distance; and thus in a battle secret instructions may be conveniently communicated. It is a contrivance of extraordinary merit."

The inventor of the "thousand mile spears" Chang Shun-hsin, of Kuichow flourished during the reign of Kang-hsi. A.D. 1662-1772. He wrote on occult science, astronomy, & foreign physics.

The

The above account of his invention was taken from his books (which are at present out of my reach) by the author of a Chinese Miscellany of that time - reign of Kienlung - there was no longer a instrument of this description in that province. The invention seems to have perished with the ingenious scientist who contrived it."

It would seem that the curious instrument described by Dr Macgowan as a "listening tube" was a rudimentary phonograph, which certainly merits a place in a history of inventions

telephone.

[The "listening tube", or telephone, here described has probably been used by boys as a toy in every country for centuries. I remember them 35 years ago in New York. The "thousand mile Spiral" is a fable, about as authentic as Friar Bacon's Brazen Head, or Munchausen's frozen horn.

aah.

Subject Typhoons
Copies when received to be sent to Navy Dept.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

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Records

No. 622. to Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 10. 1884

Mr Young to
the Department of State

Subject
Typhoons in China.

Synopsis.
Enclosing a review of a publication on the subject of typhoons.

No. 622 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 10th 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have read with much interest a review of a publication by the Rev. Father Secchi-Rens of Shanghai, a Jesuit priest, who gives much attention to the subject of meteorology. As we are perhaps more interested in this more important question than any other station, I have

requested

requested Gen Stahel to obtain and forward to you, for the use of the proper department, copies of these publications. The Department will judge from the review which I enclose, of the importance of this suggestion. I trust it will meet with your approval.

I am, Sir
Your obedient servant.

Enclosure.
1 Review of a publication.
2. Mr Young to Gen. Stahel.

REVIEW.

The Typhoons of 1882. Part II. Typhoons in Sept. and Oct. By R. P. Marc Decheverens, S.J., Director of the Zi-ka-wei Observatory, near Shanghai, China. Zi-ka-wei; printed at the Catholic Mission's Press, Tsa-ou-wei, 1884.

This second part of Père Decheverens' report on the Typhoons of the China Seas during 1882 describes the course and characteristics of four of these atmospheric convulsions which occurred some two years ago; while an appendix describes a storm, which for technical reasons is not entitled to be denominated a typhoon, and which occurred some two years and a half ago—in May, 1882. The first typhoon began its mad career near the south-western coast of the Philliphines, its course being determined, according to the learned author, by the existence of three areas of low pressure—the largest and most important extending over India, to the south of the Himalaya, the second and smallest occupying the Formosa Channel, and the third being situated to the north-east of Peking, and embracing Eastern Mongolia. The course of the typhoon is traced from the Phillipine Islands to Formosa, and along the coasts of China and Japan, observations being given as made at various coast-stations along the track, and on board several steamers and men-of-war which encountered the typhoon at different places. It is stated that with the exception of a slight hesitation near Formosa, the typhoon always went straight ahead without getting split or detained. The length of track between the 5th and 15th September is estimated at 2,245 miles, the velocity of translation being very variable; from the 5th to the 12th it might be set at 5 miles an hour on an average, whilst, from the 12th to the 15th, it attained 19.5 miles. In the Japan Sea, however, it attained a velocity of 32.8 miles an hour.

The second typhoon, ascribed by Père Decheverens to a singular combination of atmospheric phenomena which he describes with great minuteness, had its origin off Luzon, visiting Manila and Japan and disappearing in the Pacific. From midnight of September 23th to midnight of October 3rd the space run over by the centre of the typhoon was about 2350 miles, at the mean rate of 19.5 miles an hour; but from the 28th to the 30th the velocity did not exceed thirteen miles, while it attained 24.5 on the three following days. Nowhere in the bulletins of the meteorological stations of Japan was

there any mention of thunder and lightning either near or distant during all this typhoon; what thunderstorms there were, were very far from the centre.

The first typhoon in October had its origin in an atmospheric depression which formed over India and spread towards the south-east. This typhoon, which was raging to the east of Formosa and Luzon on the 9th October, deserves to be numbered among the most frightful off-springs of the Chinese seas. After minutely describing the phenomena to which he describes the growth of the typhoon, and the direction it took, the author relates several incidents of the damage wrought by its violence. Its velocity of translation increased constantly. When just leaving the China Sea it only ran 6.7 miles an hour; but about the 10th and 11th its mean velocity might be estimated at 15.8 miles.

The last typhoon described is the "Great Manila Typhoon," to which the author devotes a large amount of space. This was one of the most disastrous typhoons on record:—

In the province of Bulacan alone, some distance to the North of Manila, upwards of 20,000 houses were blown down, and it is reported that in the province of Japanga hardly two or three houses out of a thousand were left standing. All the regions of Luzon and of the neighbouring islands visited by the storm suffered pretty much in the same manner. At Manila losses were enormous. Under the furious blast of a wind running with a velocity of 53 meters per second and even more, heavy masses were lifted up and carried to a great distance: an iron bar, wrenched out of a house 300 meters from the Observatory, was lifted up to a height of 34 meters and went to knock to pieces the anemometer at the moment when it was registering the incredible velocity of the wind just mentioned; enormous guns, used on the Bund for mooring ships, rolled down to the sea beach during the storm. In the harbour fifteen ships went ashore; five men of war and numbers of other vessels met with serious damages. Outside, on the coast of Luzon, several ships were lost, amongst which was the steamer *Manila* near Bulacan.

As to the origin of this typhoon, Père Dechevrens says:—

I am afraid I am going again to bring on myself the same criticism as has been raised against the first part of this study of the typhoons of 1882 by some meteorologists who, I think, go too exclusively by preconceived notions with regard to the formation and course of atmospheric cyclones. When a typhoon approaches the continent of Asia, its first blows generally fall on the archipelago of the Philippines, after which it runs to the North-west or to the North. Its starting point would then naturally appear to have been to the South, towards the equatorial zone and somewhere East of Mindanao about the Pelew islands. But what ground is there for such an hypothesis? What typhoon was ever observed in the very act of springing up? This is no easy matter, especially in those unfrequented quarters. That region I admit not to be unapt to producing atmospheric cyclones; but is it not possible that the storms observed here may have come from the North? It is true that that is in contradiction with a universally received notion according to which there can hardly be a gyrating storm descending from North to South; but the stubborn fact, as I have proved by many instances, is that there are many typhoons that take that course from North to South at a somewhat higher latitude, and I do not see what there may be in the way to prevent them from descending to the latitude of 10° or even lower. A careful and attentive study of the documents in my possession leads me to think that the frightful typhoon of October 20th had already run a long race when it visited Luzon and that it was no other than the last typhoon which we witnessed on October 6th and 7th issuing from the China Sea and skirting the southern coast of Japan on the 10th.

After describing the course of the typhoon, the author gives the following useful note as to the prognostication of coming typhoons :—

Personal experience has taught me that the existence of a violent cyclone within a distance of eight hundred or even a thousand miles may be guessed from the abnormal direction alone of the upper clouds without hardly taking into account their shape and their arrangement on the horizon, though these may be a good and immediate prognostic. It is true that at the latitude of Shanghai and Zi-ka-wei the direction of the upper currents is constant all the year through, viz. from West to East, and it requires a violent perturbation to make them run otherwise, for instance from South to North, as it always happens whenever there is a great typhoon in the South, to the East or West of Luzon.

After crossing Luzon, the typhoon was detained in the China sea, and then made straight for the coast of Cochin-China, south of but not far from, the Capital, Hué.

The Typhoon, here, showed the same violence it had displayed at Manila. All the country was laid waste; no house but received some damage and many were blown down; *it seemed as if war and fire had passed there*; everything looked desolate, hacked to pieces, singed, calcined. An enormous tree was found broken five or six meters above ground, and the upper part firmly fixed in the earth top down on the river bank. What bamboos and plantains had preserved some foliage only presented quite dry singed leaves of a dark brown colour; such was also the condition of all the trees and shrubs left standing, even of the grass in parts exposed to the ENE. wind, the fields in the lee of that wind being comparatively free from damage. The small branches of trees had become as brittle as after desiccation; the rare leaves left were fringed, edged with a deep black border almost to the base and showed on both faces round or irregular stains varying from brown to black; some also were pierced as with a die by the side of the stains. Such singular effects were particularly observable on the india-rubber tree, also on the small caymh or oil trees, whose leaves are thick, fleshy and smooth. One of these latter, facing the East and quite isolated, had the bark stripped out on three fourths of the circumference and a height of 20 centimeters, the wood being black and dry; lower down the trunk was hacked, the bark torn irregularly as if having received a discharge of grape-shot. The coffee bushes, so thriving before the storm, were now like faggots of fire wood, altogether with some few leaves left on, dried, calcined and blackish; one might think there had been a raging fire from East. The aurantiaces, orange, lemon, and shaddock trees suffered less. Their leaves, firmly inset, resisted better, but they also showed perforations and fringing of the edge particularly at the top of the twigs; their thorns were desiccated on a third or half of the length from the point..... Those numberless strange black stains on leaves may be compared with those produced by an electric discharge. And in fact there are many people who affirm, with the storm at its height, to have seen long luminous trains along the bamboo hedges. I have witnessed several cyclones in New-Caledonia, adds Dr. Philip, but never saw anything like this. These must be quite exceptional facts. Birds perished in numbers; thermometer constantly high. Many casualties, myself attending on several persons seriously wounded. The river, at twenty kilometers from Hué, rose 3 meters during the night of the storm. Here, notwithstanding the great width of the river and the small size of its basin, it rose several meters, also on the 22d. The rain-gauge of the legation was blown off to upwards of 30 meters: hence the impossibility of determining the amount of rainfall.

Of the storm which passed over Shanghai on the 16th May, 1882, the author gives a

detailed account in an appendix, thus explaining his reasons for not including it in the number of typhoons :—

This storm, if violence and cyclone-like characteristics be alone taken into account, might easily be mistaken for a typhoon. That confusion would be of little consequence, since all those various phenomena obey the same natural laws, and the mariner on meeting them has to observe the same rules. But those various whirlwinds are altogether different in their origin, and we reserve the denomination of typhoon for those that, springing up in the equatorial seas, ascend northward after more or less protracted wandering, finally to be swept into the Northern Pacific Ocean like common storms. These latter invariably issue out of the interior of the Asiatic continent, and when they come to sea in our latitudes they may be considered as having originally belonged to the vast atmospheric depression which is spread over the Indian peninsula all the year round.

Mr Young to Gen Stahel.

Jan. 10/65

Sir:

I notice in the journals a review of a work by the Rev. Father Secherzens, S. J. upon typoons in China. As our government gives much attention to the subject of meteorology, I think that the observations of father Secherzens would have a scientific value. I do not know whether they are forwarded to the Dept. or not. I think it would be well to send them, and I have so informed the Hon Secretary of State. Any expense thus incurred you may charge to the legation account. You will find the review to which

I

I refer in the N.C. News. in the
second or third week of
December 1884.

Jamyc.

(sgd) Jno. Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

W. E. Woodward

No 623.

Legation of the United States
Peking, 10th January, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.—
The New Orleans Exposition.—

Synopsis.—

Mr. Young states the impossibility of China sending a Representative in sufficient time to take part in the assembly, convened for the 10th February, 1885 at New Orleans, and suggests that the Chinese Legation in Washington make

make a designation. This
suggestion to the Prince will
receive immediate and it is
hoped favourable consideration.

=

No. 623.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 10th January, 1885.

To the,

Honourable Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

As a further reference to your Circular, dated, October, 24th, and which I acknowledged in my Despatch No. 601, I have the honour to say that without delay, I brought the question to the notice of the Prince.

The proposed Cotton Convention is to assemble in New Orleans on

the

the 10th of February, 1885. Your
Circular reached the Legation on
the 27th of December, 1884. It would
be impossible, even if China attached
importance enough to the deliberations
of the Convention to send a Delegate
for her Representative to reach
New Orleans in time. We must
at this season of the year, allow
seventy days at least and more
considering the uncertainty of
steamer transit for a journey from
Peking to New Orleans. I said to
the Prince, that, considering this
fact, it might be well, if China
chose to take part in this
important Conference to telegraph
authority to the Chinese Legation
in

in Washington to Delegate a
Representative.

His Highness said the
subject would receive his immediate
and he hoped his favourable
consideration.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Thos. Russell Emmy

~~Consular~~

Mr Edwards

~~Confirm~~ ~~Letter about this.~~

~~Letter Mch 24 Cir 76.~~

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

No. 624 Two enclosures.

Seen in Cons Bureau

Legation of the United States.
Tekiŋ, January 12. 1885

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.
Nomination of interpreter
at Shanghai

Synopsis.
Mr Young approves of the
nomination by Mr H. J.
Emens as interpreter at
Shanghai.

No. 624. Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 12th 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a despatch from Consul-General Stâhel, in which he informs the Legation that he has nominated Mr. Wm D. Emens to be interpreter of the consulate-general and asks the Legation to give its approval of the appointment.

I have not the

honor of knowing Mr Emens.
but I have so much
confidence in the judgment
of Gen. Stahel that I do
not hesitate to ask the
Department to confirm
the nomination

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant

Richard Young

Enclosures.

1 Gen. Stahel to Mr Young
No. 72 Dec. 26/64

2. Gen. Stahel to the Department No. 46
(enclosed in No. 72 to Mr Young)

filed in Mr Peace

No. 72

Gen. Stahel to Mr Young.

Dec. 26/64.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose my despatch No. 46 to the Department of State — nominating Mr. H. J. Emens, interpreter of this consulate-general. and shall be obliged if you will kindly forward the same with your approval of the appointment

I am &c.

(sgd) J. Stahel.

dcr Mch 24, 85
Inclosure 1 Dulcimer
No. 625. Mch 24

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 12th January, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Legation Compound.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards two plans "A" and "B" shewing additional buildings for the accommodation of recently arrived members of his official family, proceeds to shew how the charges has been met.

Suggests

suggests extension of ground and
a proper residence for the Minister.

No. 625. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 12th January, 1883.

To the

Honorable Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

The changes in the staff of the Legation have devolved upon me the duty of making provision for those who have come, and those who may come. There are no foreign houses in Peking, except those owned by foreign residents. There are no hotels as we understand them. A Chinese

Chinese inn is simply an abomination. Our Legation as you will see by the plan I inclose, marked "A", is a plot of ground 230 feet by 170. The buildings are one story, in Chinese fashion, and none of them well built. The house of the Secretary may be said to be in reasonably good condition, but might be improved in the way of comfort and security. The house of the Minister is so much out of repair that I sometimes think it would be an economy to take it down and build it over again. I have myself spent a good deal of money upon it, and when what is mine is taken away, it will be uninhabitable. The offices need

"A"
625.

need absolute rebuilding and are too small for the transaction of business, and the preservation of the archives.

Under the provisions of our lease with the late Doctor Williams - which is of record in the Legation, - as enclosure in my Despatch No. 164 dated, March, 20th, 1883 the Minister has the right to expend $600.- a - year in repairs and additional - buildings. I have therefore caused to be erected a small house which you will find on the enclosed plan "B" and marked "C". It comprises a dining, a drawing and a - bed-room. It will be a convenient home for a single gentleman, and my intention in building it was to

"B"
625

accommodate

accommodate Mr. Cheshire. The funds for its construction I have taken partly from the allowance for repairs for 1884, and partly from the allowance accruing in 1885. It will require this, and more, say in all $1200. to put the house in a habitable condition. I have advanced the money due in 1885. Mr. Cheshire himself will advance something towards its completion. Mr. Rockhill built an addition to the Minister's guest house, marked "D", under an impression, when he first came, that he would occupy a part of the "Minister's house". But when his family arrived, it was found that the comforts necessary to a proper

home,

home, especially as there were ladies in his family were not possible. I accordingly assigned him the Secretary's house, reversing my first invention of dividing the Ministers house into two, for the accommodation of the first and second secretaries, and taking what is called the Secretary's house for myself.

The disbursements of Mr. Cheshire, Mr. Rockhill and myself are so many contributions towards enhancing the value of this property, and remain as charges against the allowance of $600.- a year. It will take two or three years for the accretions of this fund to make

make these disbursements good, - especially when we remember the - demand upon the fund for other - repairs. There was no other way - however of finding accommodations - for the Legation. I did what seemed best for the interests alike of the - Government and the owners of the - property.

There are other changes that - should be made. If the Government should as it must in time, should it ever care to have a useful service in China send out students, who - will learn Chinese as a - preparation to enter the Consular Service, provision must be made for them. What are now known -

as

as "guest houses" could be used for that purpose. Thus Mr. Berghotz, my private secretary at present occupies the guest house "E" and Mr. Cheshire, the guest house marked "F". What we require, to make our Legation serviceable is this. Let the grounds be extended, say two hundred feet and a new house built for the Minister. This would enable the first secretary and the students to occupy what is now the Minister's house, and give the Minister, what he does not now have proper accommodations. Compared with the Russian, German, French, English, Japanese and Spanish Legations

the

the house of the American Minister is a barn. In some respects he is the worst lodged foreign resident in Peking. Apart from the mere question of health and comfort, this, in a country where appearance counts for so much in making a proper impression upon the Chinese, is a misfortune to our service.

Recent events at home, will I need hardly say, take from these suggestions any suspicion of a personal motive. I am most anxious, however, to have our Legation and our Service generally in China upon a proper basis. My recommendations are

are the result of much thought and a good deal of experience. What I propose can be done without much expense, and there is no reason why it should not be done with judgment and economy. We can then have a Legation worthy of our position as a great nation, and in my opinion absolutely necessary if we care for our interests in China.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

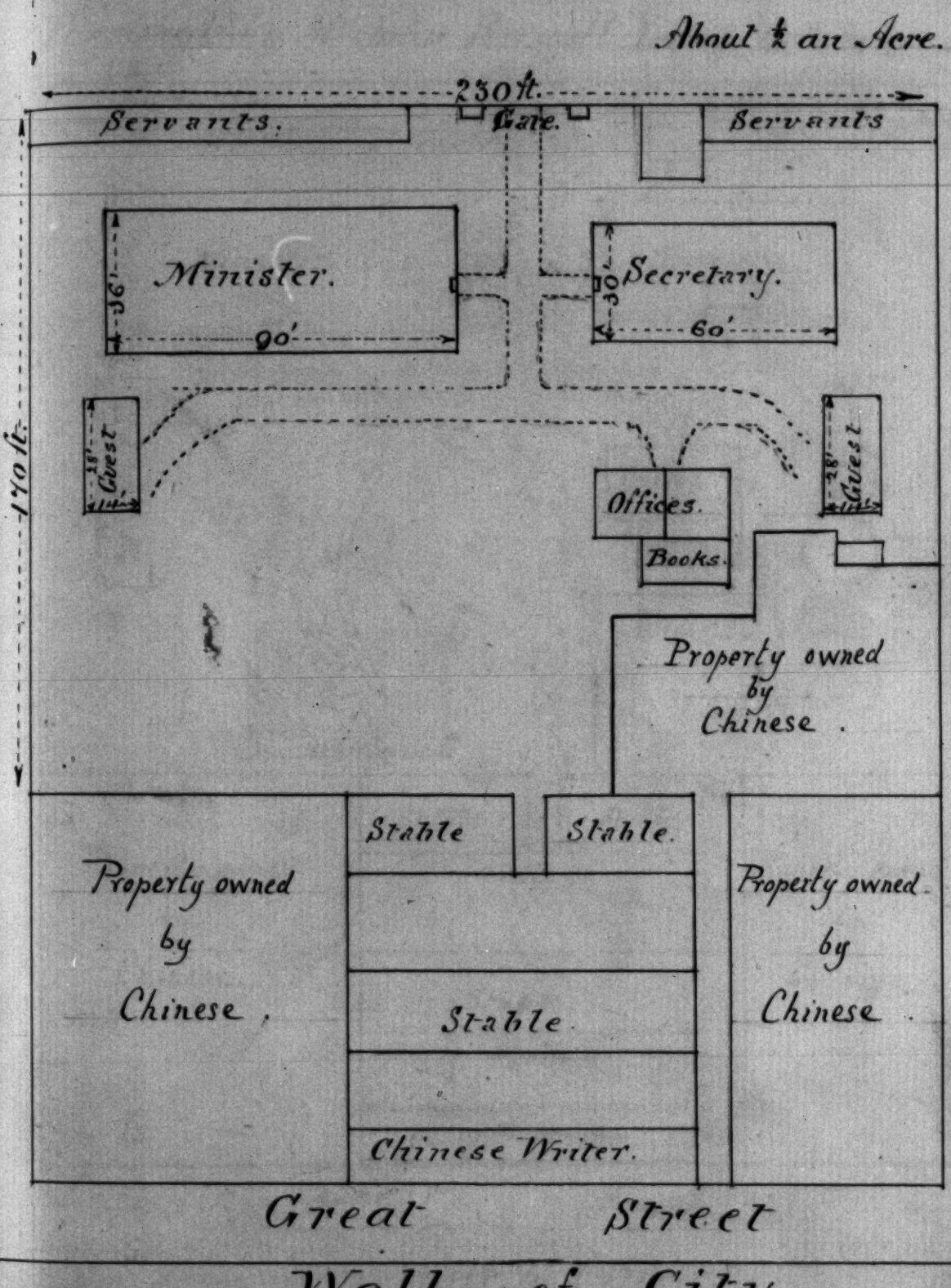
Edward Fenno.

Enclosure

1. Plan "A".
2. Plan "B".

"A"

Approximate Sketch, of grounds and buildings of U.S. Legation at Peking.

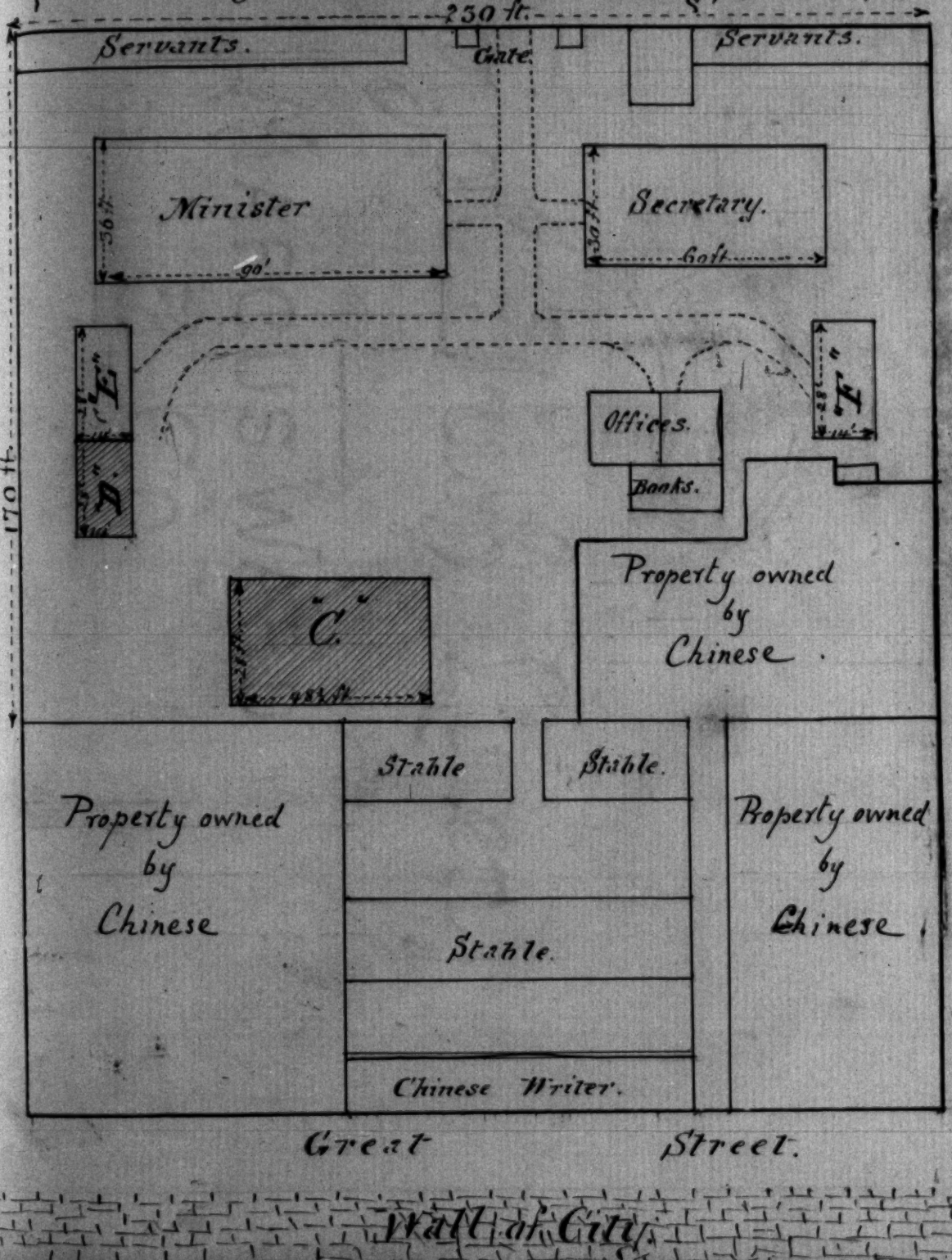


"B."

About ½ an Acre.

Approximate Sketch and buildings of U. S. Legation at PEKING.

Furnished by Mr John Russell Young, October, 14th 1884.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
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No. 526 Four enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Tientsin, January 12. 1885.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

Subject

The Mixed Court at Shanghai.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young encloses copies of correspondence between Gen. Stähel, Mr. von Brandt and the Legation regarding the services of Sr. Stuick as late acting American assessor at the Mixed Court.

No. 626 Four enclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 12, 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

Since the retirement of Mr Cheshire from the Shanghai consulate-general the duties of American assessor at the Mixed Court have been, until within a short time, performed by Mr Streich of the German consular-service. General Stahel, however, has made arrangements by which

Lee

we are no longer compelled to ask the courtesy of our German colleagues to enable us to do our part in the administration of justice. I have communicated to H.E. the German Minister the sense of obligation felt by the Legation towards Dr Streich for his services, and in doing so, ventured to anticipate the pleasure it would give me to make the same communication to the Department.

The correspondence you will find enclosed.

I am, Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant,

(Th. Thomas Young)

Enclosures.

1 Gen. Stahel to Mr Young.
No. 66 Dec. 5/84

2. Mr Young to Gen. Stahel
No 212 Dec. 29/84

3 Mr Young to Mr v. Brandt
No. 136/84 Dec. 30/84

4. Mr von. Brandt to Mr Young.
No. 10/85 Jan. 8/85

Inclosure 1.

General Stahel to Mr. Young.

No: 66. Shanghai. December 5, 1884.

Sir.

* * * * * * * Permit me to respectfully bring to your notice the efficient and friendly services rendered this office by Mr. Streich, who has acted as U.S. Assessor at the Mixed Court, from the time of Mr. Cheshire's transfer to Peking until the 1st instant.

I am, &c.,

(Signed) F. Stahel

Consul General.

Inclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. van Brandt.

N°. 136. Peking, 30th. December 1882.

Sir and Dear Colleague,

I have the honor to inclose a despatch from Consul-General Strahl at Shanghai calling the attention of the Legation to the efficient and friendly services of Mr. Streich, Interpreter of your Consulate-General, as United States assessor at the Mixed Court.

I beg to thank Your Excellency for this service, and in doing so to anticipate the pleasure which it will afford me to make this communication to my Government.

In doing

In doing so, I renew to
Your Excellency the assurance
of my most distinguished
consideration.

(Signed) Jno. Russell Young

Inclosure 3.

Mr. Young to General Stahel.

N°. 212. Peking, 29 December, 1884.

Sir,

* * * * * * I beg that you will express to the Consul-General of Germany the thanks of the Legation for the services rendered by Mr. Streich, for his efficient and friendly offices as U. S. Assessor at the Mixed Court.

I am, etc.,

(Signd) Jno. Russell Young.

Inclosure 4.

Mr. van Brandt to Mr. Young.

Peking, January 8th, 1885.

Sir and dear Colleague,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter dated December 30th referring to the services which it had been the good fortune of Mr. Streich of the German Consulate General at Shanghai to be able to render to the United States Consulate General at that port.

While I shall be most happy to forward to Mr. Streich a copy of Your letter I must apologize for the delay in answering it, which was

was caused solely by the state
of my health.

I avail myself of th
opportunity to renew to Yo
Excellency the assurance of my
most distinguished consideratio

(Signed) M. v. Brandt

No. 627.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr. Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 14, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Mr. Young acknowledges the receipt of Department despatches Nos. 358 to 361 inclusive.

No. 627.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 14, 1885.

Hon. Fred^k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your following despatches:

No. 358, of November 5^th 1884.
" 359 " " 12^th, 1884.
" 360 " " 13^th, 1884.
" 361 " " 13^th, 1884.

together with their several inclosures.

I am, Sir.

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 628. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 16, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
The war in China.

No. 628. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 16, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I enclose for your information 1/628
some recent publications showing the
disposition of the Chinese government to
accept the warlike alternative in its
controversy with France. The Department
will note that the German naval
officers who recently came out to serve
the Chinese government, have been
assigned to duty, and will soon be
engaged in active operations against
the French. The German Legation

disavows

disavows all knowledge of these gentlemen, and all responsibility for their actions.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Rt. Hamilton Lang.

Inclosure.

1- Extracts from recent publications on Chinese warlike preparations.

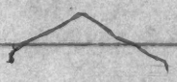
No. 628. Enclosure

One Thousand Marines.

—

Have been picked out by
His Excellency Têng Yü-lin
from Canton, for service in
Formosa.

—



Enclosure.-

Rewards for the Soldiers in Tonquin.

Twenty thousand taels have reached Lung-chow (Kwang-si) as rewards for the soldiers who exerted themselves in the late battle with the French in Tonquin.

Enclosure.

The Chinese in Tongking.

The "Hupao" states that a telegram has been received in Peking by the Yamên to the effect that the Chinese troops under the Ts'ên Yü-ying and Liu Jung-fu have completely invested Nüan-Kwang in Tongking. Huang Shou-chung has achieved a great victory, and Generals Tsêng and Su have already arrived at Bacninh. Chang K'ai-sung, Fu-t'ai of Yunnan, is guarding the frontier of his province.

Enclosure.

The French in Tong King.

We take the following from a letter of the special correspondent of the China mail, dated Haiphong, 4th Dec.:- The health of the French troops, which was very bad indeed during September and October, is now much improved, the fine dry weather which has been general throughout the country during the past month, having put many of the invalids on their feet again. It is only now that the magnitude of the Enterprise undertaken so lightly nearly two years ago in Tong King is understood by France. When a force of some 12,000 troops were collected in the country last December, it was thought that a four months campaign, or military pic-nic, would complete the subjugation of the country, and enable the bulk of the Expeditionary corps to return to France

France and leave the protection of the new colony, or protectorate, to a native auxiliary force with a few European companies as a nucleus. Of the 12,000 French troops less than 7,000 now remain, and General Brière now finds it necessary to husband the resources at his command and accept the policy of defending the line absolutely necessary to the protection of the delta. We now hear that 5,000 reinforcements are to be sent at once to Tong King, but in the meanwhile the months best suited for operations in the field will have slipped by, and, unless in the meanwhile terms be arranged with China, the campaign against the hordes from Kuang-tung, Kwang si and Yunnan will be prolonged until the next rains, during which season sickness will render all operations disastrous and almost impossible. Altogether the outlook is not a brilliant one.

m

Enclosure.

"We have reason to believe", says the Hong Kong Daily Press, "that it is really intended to despatch vessels from Woosung to raise the blockade of Formosa, and if possible retake Keelung. It is, however, improbable that anything like a large fleet such as has been spoken of in the Shanghai papers, will start on the expedition. We shall indeed be surprised if, at any rate for the present, more than the Chao Yung and the Yang wei make the attempt. We believe that "admiral" Sebelin has announced his intention to prove that fast cruizers can beat big iron clads, and that he may not be hampered in his attempt, has stipulated that he may put in irons any Chinese naval officers on board who shew any signs of frustrating his plans. The two cruizers were built by Armstrong and are quite new. They are fitted with twin screws, steam

fifteen

fifteen knots steadily, and are armed with 25 tons breech-loading guns at bow and stern, besides 4 Armstrong breach loading 40 pounders. There are three German officers on board each boat, a German doctor on the Chao Yung (the flagship) Scotch and American Engineers, and one or two gunners who have been picked up in Shai and go into action on a thousand taels a month. The hope of the Chinese is that these craft, with their speed, the long range of their guns, the swiftness with which they can be manœuvred, and the smallness of the mark they offer, besides their light draught, will be able at any rate to hold their own against the strongest of the French ships, and may possibly sink one or more of them. The crew are picked men, who drill and fire well; and there is no doubt about the power of the guns. It is therefore just possible

possible that the Chinese may bring off their coup. Should they do so, one good thing will come of it. The French will be awakened to a sense of the task before them and will send out a force sufficient to end the war promptly. Anything that is likely to lead to this result is sure of a hearty approval from the foreign community. —

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Enclosure.

The Chinese Cruisers.

Yang wei and Chao yung went quietly away at noon to day, under the command of Commodore Lyebeli, the 'Wan li cheng.' Their destination is variously said to be Kiang yin, Corea and Keelung. The Chinese unfortunately do not provide us, as the English Govern^t does the home papers, with a column of naval and military intelligence, and we are therefore unable to state definitely whither the cruisers are bound: wherever it is, we may be very certain, despite the insular apprehensions of our correspondent 'Observer,' that the German officers on board will, if they are not too much interfered with by their Chinese colleagues, give a very good account of themselves. It is a pity that they have not a 'vates sacer' on board to record their achievements; perhaps the Doctor

whom

whom they carry is a fluent penman, and may be able to keep us informed of their morning accidents 'by flood' and field, if they are really going up to the icy shores of Corea. By the bye, it is somewhat curious that the French newspapers have not yet began to find fault with Bismarck for allowing Germans to enter the Chinese Service. Of course, as long as no war is declared, they have as perfect a right to take service with the Chinese as Mr. Thomas had to pilot Admiral Courbet, but French journalists are not generally restrained by such technical considerations, and if the officers engaged by China to help fight their ships had been Britons, Paris would have raised the cry of "Perfidious Albion!" loud enough to be heard in Shanghai.

Contributed by a Naval Officer.

There

These two vessels of nearly the same size and tonnage were designed by Sir W. Armstrong, and built on the Tyne a few years ago. They are considered by foreign naval authorities to be superior to any of the kind afloat, and if properly handled and well managed, would prove dangerous enemies in action. Had these two gunboats taken part in the Nagoden Anchorage affair, armed and filled as they now are, the French ships would have sustained considerable damage from the battering fire of the heavy guns, and the destructive hail that could have been thrown upon their exposed decks by the machine guns, now seen bristling from the bridge, poops and forecastle of the vessels. It is to be hoped that the catastrophe at Foochow has taught the authorities at Peking the inestimable value of these weapons in modern warfare, and that they will

will not, as they did, not very long ago, deny them to the commanders of their service who made requisition for them.

The two gun boats are armed with two 6in inch breech loading Armstrong guns, one placed at the bow and the other at the Stern. The weight of the projectile fired by these is 100 lbs, and the charge of powder used 180 lbs. Laminated plates of soft Steel and iron, moving with the gun as it is trained, protect the gun's crew from the small arm fire of the Enemy. Large ports extending round the bow and stern give an immense sweeping range of fire of about 35° on each side. The guns are trained and elevated, not by hydraulic power, but loaded by hand. Four or five men are sufficient to work one of these large pieces of ordnance. In addition to these bow and Stern

Chasers

chasers there are four rather antiquated 40 pounder muzzle-loading broadside guns, which would be perfectly useless in action after the first fire.

The machine guns are in excellent condition, well arranged on the ships, and fairly well provided with wrought iron shields, 2 being landings on the poops; 2 Hotchkiss, 37 millimetres calibre firing a 1lb. projectile, on each side of the bridge, and 1 Nordenfeldt on the forecastle. One of these guns was being fitted to its revolving pedestal when I was on board, and the officer (a native) superintending the work, and the workmen themselves seemed to thoroughly understand their business, and the former to fully appreciate the power of the weapon. Strong steel hatches, covered with plates of the same metal, lead down into the engines and fire rooms, which are four feet

below

below the waterline; immediately above are the coal bunkers divided into small compartments, and over all a strong steel deck. Thus the most vulnerable part of the vessel is well protected from above from falling shot and shell, but only insufficiently defended on the sides, which are not heavily casemated as they should be in the wake of the machinery.

The Engines and boilers are in good condition, the former are compound, having high and low pressure cylinders of 60 and 30 inches respectively in diameter, working twin screws, which will give the vessel a speed of 16 knots.

The most exposed part of the ship, the pilot house, is insufficiently strong, being only two thicknesses of boiler iron having peep holes running laterally round the cornice, the height of the eye; these can be closed by an iron flap when not in use.

Spars

Spars about 35 feet in length on each side, one a little abaft the bow, the other just forward of the stern, can be rigged out to hold suspended wire railings stretched from one to the other, which are weighted and sunk below the water as guards against torpedoes and the torpedo boats of the enemy; before one of these destructive little craft can come out through this wire impediment, she would probably be sunk by the guns of the ship. There are no torpedoes on board these gunboats, and this apparatus is not as yet rigged, but will be before leaving Shanghai. The condition of the vessels is good on the whole, it is only in minor and unimportant details, that can be rectified at any time, and are at present of little moment, that they appear to a stranger and one unacquainted with the ensemble of a man-of-war undergoing

undergoing repairs, to have been neglected and to be out of order.

Well manned with a crew of 140 men and properly officered, these steamers little craft ought to shew the Enemy that a war with the men of Chung Kwok is not to be merely a game of skittles.

Mr. Dickerson

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

No. 629. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 16, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Duplicate telegram account for the
month of December 1884.

No. 629. — One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 16, 1885.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit herewith duplicate statement of the telegram account of this Legation for the month of December 1884. The original statement was forwarded in my number 611, dated January 6th, 1885. 1/629

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Geo. Seward Emery.

Enclosure - 1 Duplicate account as above.

C.

Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Open and forward.

(Signed) Young.

Peking. December 31: 1884.

B.

Cipher Telegram.

Stahel

Shanghai.

Telegraph Admiral Davis most important Legation kept well informed of Shanyi's mission to Corea. Suggest man-of-war there until trouble over.

(Signed) Young.

Peking. December 23, 1884.

A.

Cipher telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Tell Russell Ma audience
Emperor ordered return
Tientsin.

(Signed) Young.

Peking. December 14, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Wm Woods

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 17, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwarding a chinese translation
of "Poor Richard's Almanac".

No. 630.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 17, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward you herewith two copies of "La science du bonhomme Richard", better known as "Poor Richard's Almanac", with chinese translation and biographical notice on Franklin.

This work has been made a text book for the chinese students in the government college at Peking, and the translation was made under the supervision of its president

Dr.

Dr W. A. P. Martin, a citizen of the United States.

I forward this work as a proof of the introduction of western ideas into chinese literature.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Th. Kuwatsuy

Enclosure.

2 Copies of "La sciences du bonhomme Richard"

Rec'd March 19
Cipher

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

No. 631. Three Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 20, 1885.

PRINTED
1885

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Protection of foreigners in Canton.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards a proclamation of the Imperial Commissioner to Canton on the means of arresting the spread of Christianity; also the foreign ministers remonstrance thereto. Comments on the above documents.

No. 631. Three Inclosures.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 20, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose a 1/631.
copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul
Seymour at Canton. Mr. Seymour
forwards to the Legation copies of
inflammatory publications in Chinese
text issued in Canton, intended to
incense the people against the foreigner,
and more particularly natives who
have became christians. These are
sold about the streets, and at this
time, with the public mind incensed

against

against France, and, disposed as the people are to confound all foreigners with Frenchmen, do harm. As a specimen, I annex a summarized translation 2/6
of a memorial from the Imperial Commissioner to the Throne, which has gone into general circulation. The memorialist, an official of very high rank, alleges that Christianity is only accepted by "loafers or men of no occupation, greedy of a little gain." He furthermore says that "bad characters and pettifoggers join christian churches to escape the laws of their country. Out of this comes troubles and at times outbreaks" — The memorialist admits that it is impossible to prevent the missionaries from making converts,

converts, but, while preventive means so far as disseminating christian ideas are impossible, there might be measures of restriction. Chinese converts to Christianity should be registered - Small tablets bearing in chinese characters the word "christian" should be nailed over the doors of each convert's house. They should wear a distinctive dress - a short coat, not a long one. As nothing could be more mortifying to a Chinaman, than to compel him to change his long garment for a short one - as the change would be virtually putting upon the converts a stigma or a brand, the memorialist naively adds, that "this will move them

to

to shame, and thus break off the means of obtaining converts."

It would be difficult, considering the oriental character as well as the manners and customs of the Chinese, to devise a more ingenious and effectual method of persecution than this. In reading it, it is only just to the Chinese memorialist to remember the methods adopted in former times and in Western lands for the conversion of the Hebrew race, - the extirpation of various forms of "heresy". Such a recommendation, however, coming from an imperial commissioner, and addressed to the Throne, naturally, as Mr. Seymour informs the Legation, made an unfortunate impression upon the Chinese, and caused much

anxiety

anxiety to foreign teachers and others engaged in mission work. An address by way of protest, was prepared by the representatives of three of the missions in Canton – British, German and American, to be forwarded to the respective legations in Peking. A copy of this I enclose. 3/631.

In this address the missionaries protest against the allegation of the memorialist, that they interfere with the administration of Chinese justice in the courts or prisons. They deny that they have ever aimed to establish any right of asylum as it ~~exists~~, in their churches, chapels or religious houses the effect of which being to secure for the chinese christians exemption from the laws. They claim simply

that

that Chinese Christians shall be treated as mohammedans, buddhists or confucians, as legal subjects of the empire - and not as aliens or rebels.

Mr. Seymour, as I have said, does not give a pleasant impression as to the policy pursued at Canton by the Imperial Commissioner, but charges him directly with having twice aroused the populace to hostile demonstrations against foreign residents and native christians.

As the address of the missionaries was likewise sent to my colleagues of the English and German Legations, I conferred with them as to the joint action appropriate under the circumstances. The

indisposition

indisposition of one of my colleagues, prevented its immediate consideration, but I trust we shall be able to enter upon its discussion in a day or two. I expressed my willingness, in conversation with Sir Harry Parkes, to unite in an earnest remonstrance to the Yamên.

The subject is one of the most difficult attending our relations with China. Questions are continually arising as to the status of native coverts to Christianity. In dealing with them we are met with the consideration which it is difficult to answer, namely the right of the Emperor to do what he pleases with his own subjects.

While this might be conceded

as

as a general proposition, the treaties are clear upon the subject. And in the treaties whenever there is an expressed covenant, we must find our only tenable ground for dealing with the Chinese authorities. In the treaty of 1858, signed by my predecessor Mr. Reed, - Article XXIX declares that "the principles of the christian religion, as professed by the Protestant and Roman Catholic churches, are recognized as teaching men to be good, and to do to others, as they would have others do to them." The Emperor of China in this convention accordingly engages that those who "quietly profess and teach these doctrines shall not be harrassed or persecuted on account of their faith." It is furthermore declared

declared that "any person whether citizen of the United States or Chinese convert, who according to these tenets peaceably teaches or practises the principles of Christianity, shall in no case be interfered with or molested". In the Russian treaty of 1858, provisions for the protection of Russians in the observance of their faith, but also for the protection of Chinese converts to the Russian faith, are even more explicit than in the American treaty:- "Le Gouvernment Chinois ayant reconnu que la doctrine chrétienne facilite l'établissement de l'ordre et de la concorde entre les hommes, promet de ne pas persécuter ses sujets chrétiens par l'exercise des devoirs de leur religion; ils jouiront

jouissant de la protection accordée à
tous ceux qui professent les autres
croyances tolérées dans l'Empire.
Le Gouvernement Chinois considérant
les missionnaires chrétiens comme
des hommes de bien qui ne cherchent
pas d'avantages materiels, leur
permettra de propager le Christianisme
parmi ses sujets, et ne leur empêchera
pas de circuler dans l'interieur de
l'Empire. Un nombre fixé de
missionnaires partant des villes ou
ports ouverts, sera muni de
passports signés par les autorités
Russes." (The chinese government
having recognized that the christian
doctrine facilitates the establishment
of order and of concord among
men, promises not to persecute
its

its christian subjects for the exercise of their religious duties; they shall enjoy the protection granted to all those who profess other creeds tolerated in the Empire. The chinese government considering missionaries as good men seeking for no material advantages, will permit them to propagate Christianity among its subjects, and will not prevent them from having abart in the interior of the Empire. A certain number of missionaries leaving open toons or ports shall be provided with passports signed by the Russian authorities.)

These provisions are emphatic enough, so far as they affirm the duty of the Emperor of China to

protect

protect christian missionaries and converts. Stipulations to the same effect are found in the conventions with Great Britain, Germany, Belgium, Dammark, Holland, Italy, France and Spain. The provision of the French treaty, especially as it appears in a translation from the chinese text, is more comprehensive and precise, and worthy of consideration, considering our rights under the favored nation clause. "Art. VI. It shall be promulgated throughout the length and breadth of the land, in the terms of the Imperial Edict of the 20th February, 1846, that it is permitted to all people in all parts of China to propagate and practice the "teaching of the Lord of Heaven," to meet together for

for the preaching of the doctrine, to
build churches and to worship;
further, all such as indiscriminately
arrest [Christians] shall be duly
punished; and such churches, schools,
cemeteries, lands, and buildings, as
were owned at former occasions by
persecuted Christians shall be
paid for, and the money handed
to the French Representative at
Peking, for transmission to the
Christians in the localities concerned.
It is, in addition, permitted to
French Missionaries to rent and
purchase land in all the provinces,
and to erect buildings thereon at
pleasure."

France has taken special
interest in the missionary question,

as

as upon her practically devolves the protection of the members of the Roman Catholic communion. The members of this communion — native converts I mean, so far as I can learn, are largely in excess of those of any other Christian body. We must remember however, that for generations the Roman propaganda has taken a deep interest in China, and had it not been for the persecutions of suspicious sovereigns, would now, in all probability be as strongly established as Mahammedanism. Has for the unfortunate suspicions of the sovereigns, leading as they did to such unhappy consequences, were aroused by an indiscreet energy on the part of the early

energy on the part of the early missionaries of the Roman Church, history leaves as a matter of speculation. As they were generally members of the Society of Jesus, we know enough of the profound and courageous policy of that venerable order to be assured that there was no lack of zeal on the part of its representatives in China. I have seen nothing in the Chinese character or philosophy to shew that either rulers or people have religious antipathies - Among the ruling classes the feeling does not exist. As a general rule these high officials are Confucians, - and there could be no creed more tolerant than that taught by the illustrious teacher.

There are practical difficulties in the dissemination of the Christian

faith,

faith, whether in Roman, Greek or Protestant form worthy of consideration, in looking at the political or diplomatic aspects of such questions as this which comes from Canton. The "conversion" of a Chinaman, means more than is understood in the accepted meaning of that word. The convert has so much to learn, so much to forget. If conversion were simply the acceptance of a new dogma, or learning a new creed, or the acceptance of a new system of theological speculation, the labor of teaching would be simple. There are points of agreement in doctrine and tradition between existing forms of faith in the West, which makes easy the teaching of any special form of Christianity. Even in Islam you see

see a dependence upon the Hebrew scriptures. But I have found no vestige of that influence in the religious systems of China, and more especially nothing in the manners or the customs of the people to make the Mosaic dispensation agreeable. For a Chinaman to accept Christianity involves so complete a surrender of all that belongs to his education, his theory of government and society, his views of nature, his ancestral worship, his domestic relations, and his modes of life, that it is a wonder that a convert is ever made.

So far as I can see converts come from the humbler classes. I am gradually coming to the opinion that there are few instances where conversion is not associated with

a

a sentiment of self interest. The missionary does not come simply with a Bible in his hands. He brings other bread than the Bread of Life - He looks after the sick. He takes the maim and the halt into a hospital, and nurses them. He strives to avert pestilence and famine. The children are taken into schools, which practically means shelter, clothing and food. The Bible women at the mission-stations have access to Chinese homes, and gradually establish a practical influence of a domestic character in Chinese family life. In a country so populous and so poor, with the dread of famine ever present, where the question of mere subsistence for

millions

millions is paramount, where food and shelter are chief considerations, where even clothing is a secondary matter, a propaganda which not only offers food and shelter, but medicine and counsel, and friendly aid cannot but advance. I see no other way in which advancement is possible. Naturally, however, it is only the poor, the very poor who are converted.

I have made this digression for the purpose of establishing two points:- The first is the difficulties attending mission work in China, and that Christianity seeking so radical a change in Chinese life, make its advance even in its mildest forms an aggressive influence. The

second

second is, that the ruling classes have no sympathy with it, and would regard with indifference the spread of the Gospel so long as there was no fear that the new faith would be used for political purposes.

The only Chinese statesman within my knowledge who has shown any interest in the missionary work, or any desire to aid it, is the Viceroy Li. This arose from the fact, that a medical member of one of the missionary boards in Tientsin, was enabled at a critical time, when the Viceroy's wife was ill, to save her life. This awakened in the mind of Li, a sentiment of interest and gratitude. From this has come much good so far as the protection of missionary interests in the north

is

is concerned.

Apart from the fact, that China always looks upon everything new with suspicion, and that the character of the people is as impressible as granite, I believe that no country could be more tolerant of a religious propaganda. There is no faith, for instance, more aggressive than that of Mahomet. Islam taught that Paradise was to be found under the shadow of the sword. And yet Mahommedanism has millions of believers in China. They keep their customs, and differ from other Chinese in some slight peculiarities of costume; but they are essentially a part of the Chinese nation. It has taken generations

to

to bring about this assimilation, and I am afraid other generations must come and go, before the gentler faith of Jesus achieves its due dominion.

If it be true, that China looks with indifference upon the efforts to spread the gospel, why these persecutions in Canton? The reasons are political not religious. China is at this time swayed by an antipathy - hatred of France. In this dense and ignorant community, all foreigners are alike. The rulers know better, but the intelligence of the Yamên is not generally found in a tea-house or on the highway. Our friends, therefore, in Canton and elsewhere have to submit to the fact that in the eyes of many

classes

classes of Chinese, they are a part of the movement which disturbs the peace of China and threatens the integrity of the empire.

All that we can do is in the first place to take means for the protection of our people. Admiral Davis has done all that he can do with his small naval force. In this, as the Department knows, the Admiral has been in accord with the commanders-in-chief of other squadrons. Canton, ever since the riot in 1883, has been under the guns of American and other men-of-war. As you are aware from previous despatches the question of the protection of the open ports when war threatened, was made the subject of careful and

minute

minute preparations. Since these arrangements were consummated the Legation has had no anxiety about the safety of our people. Admiral Davis has done his share loyally in carrying out the agreement between the powers referred to in my despatch No. 318, dated January 6, 1884. Although but one American resides in Newchwang, an American gunboat is now there, and will remain frozen in all winter. But while Admiral Davis is protecting other nationalities in Newchwang, the ships of other powers protect Americans elsewhere.

Having therefore done all that we can to protect the ports, we have not failed to demand

from

from the Yamên protection for the interior. The amplest assurance has been given in a decree from the Throne as reported in my despatch No. 505, dated September 7, 1884. I have no reason to doubt the good faith of the Chinese authorities in the enforcement of that decree. As was seen in Canton, as has been seen, in nations claiming a higher civilization than China, it is not the authorities we have to fear. There may be an outbreak in Kwang si, for which the Yamên would be no more responsible than the cabinet of Washington for a negro election fight in Texas, or an Indian massacre in Montana. The dangers of these outbreaks I do not mean to belittle.

There

There is no point where the danger is more imminent, or where the foreign population is more helpless than in Peking. There are perhaps a hundred foreigners resident here including missionaries of the Protestant, Roman Catholic and Greek churches - frozen in for the winter. We could not reach the seaboard in two weeks. There are two small gunboats at Tientsin, German and Russian, but of no protection, - to us. We are absolutely at the mercy of the Chinese troops or even of Chinese mob. And although the question has not been regarded without concern as a practical fact, I have never heard any one question the sincerity of the authorities in their declaration

declaration to protect all foreign residents, even the French. I have not heard that any French have left Peking, except the members of the Legation, and they are in Shanghai.

I have troubled you with what the Department may regard as unnecessary observations, but I am anxious that you should appreciate the importance attached by the Legation to the gravity of the problem, which comes again to us from Canton. There will be no difficulty in the foreign ministers asking from the Yamên a legal observance by the Canton officials of the decree from the Throne, and a rebuke of the imperial commissioner for his incendiary publication. So long as

war

war is threatened there will be no want of care on the part of the naval vessels. Beyond this I do not see what can be done. A great deal will depend upon the tact, courtesy and forbearance of foreigners themselves in dealing with the Chinese, and especially those engaged in missionary work. There may be annoyances, insults, disturbances perhaps, causes for anxiety. The history of Christianity shows that those who follow the cross must sometimes bear the cross, especially in teaching and preaching the gospel. We shall do all that is possible for their protection, with the hope that nothing more than our good will towards that end will be required.

9

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

Inclosures.

1 Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young. No. 95. Dec. 17. 1884.

2. Translation of incendiary proclamation sold in the streets of Canton.

3. Remonstrance of missionaries to above proclamation.

No. 95.

Enclosure 1.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

December, 17th, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to hand you herewith appended the remonstrance of the American, English, and German Protestant missionaries at Canton against the use made of the memorial of Imperial Commissioner Pang Yü Lin (or Lun), and its mischievous nature and misrepresentations.

The American, English and German Consuls at Canton have been requested to transmit this remonstrance to the American, English, and German Legations respectively.

It may not be fully understood at Peking that since the arrival of Imperial Commissioner Pang in Canton during the first week of December

December, 1883, he has lost no
opportunity to create hostile feelings
among the natives against foreigners,
and to incite the populace to acts of
persecution against native converts
to Christianity.

His arrival was the occasion of
great demonstrations against
foreigners and missionaries and
their native friends.

The first half of Decr, 1883 will
be memorable in Canton for the
earnestness with which the natives
attempted to get rid of all foreigners,
and to harrass native Christians.

In my No. 44, under date of
Decr 8th, 1883, I gave you particulars
of that event; and the list of correspondence
for Decr, 1883, transmitted with my No.
48, bears record of lively work in
guarding the interests of foreign
residents, and missions, and
native converts from hostile mobs
in City and country, as it was

generally

generally understood by the populace that the Imperial Commissioner, acting under orders of the Imperial Govern', had come to Canton to reverse the policy pursued by the two Viceroys "Tseng" (in August 1883) and "Chang Shue Shing" (in Sept^r, 1883), as to protection of foreigners and foreign interests from native mobs.

Again in August, 1884 and the following months, Commissioner Pʻan twice aroused the populace to hostile demonstrations against foreign residents and native Christians by Proclamations that were unreasonable. In both of these cases he involved three other high officials by having their names and seals affixed to those mischievous documents; one of which enjoined upon all Chinese along the coast, and as far South as Singapore, to kill the French by poisoning their

their food

The memorial of Commissr Ranney with Shrine a few months ago in favour of compelling native Christians to be so designated by registration, and peculiarity of apparel, and other marks for identification, as to be continual objects of ridicule, derision and contempt, manifested his evil purpose.

During the past month about fifteen thousand students have been in Canton attending the examinations and exercises for literary honours; and taking advantage of the presence of this large body of students, some person or persons caused many thousands of copies of "the Ranney Memorial" see to be sold upon the streets of Canton. It was

Enclosure marked "B"

posted

posted in the "Yamên", and widely circulated, apparently if not evidently, with the full knowledge and concurrence of the authorities, including the Imperial Commissioner; whose overshadowing influence is felt by all subject to his control, or liable to incur his displeasure, or seeking his favour.

So unfavourably have the Imperial Commissioner's efforts to keep alive bad feelings among the natives against foreigners and native christians been felt by these missionaries whose remonstrance now goes to you, that they desire you in conjunction with the English and German Legations, if possible, to lay their grievances before the "Tsung li Yamên"; and beg to have Commissioner K'ang admonished to refrain from a continuance of the evil course he has pursued for a year past

in

in Canton; which is clearly contrary to the Spirit and letter of Treaty Stipulations; and tends to alienate natives and foreigners who might otherwise enjoy peace, security, tranquility, and mutual respect.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour.

H. B. M. Consul.

1. affixed document marked "A"
1 Enclosed Envelope marked "B".

Translation. Enclosure 2.

In the matter of distinguishing Native Converts from Non Christians.

Since foreigners have been permitted under the Treaties to propagate the Christian religion in China, the effect upon the people's hearts has been bad for the reason that loafers or men of no occupation, greedy of a little gain are enticed to become converts. Bad characters and pettyfoggers join the Christian Churches and thus escape the laws of their country as the local officers are unable to get at them and investigate (their crimes). This has had the effect of stirring up trouble and hence the many cases of burning of Chapels and Christian places of worship. It is now impossible to prevent natives from joining the Christian societies, but the memorialist request that

that while natives are openly permitted to become Christians, yet at the same time a plan can be enforced to secretly prohibit them. It is that:-

1st Converts are to be registered, separately.

2d The officials of the Chows' and Hsien's are to give each convert a small tablet with the characters "Chiao Hsin" written on it to be nailed over the doors of their houses.

3d All converts are to wear a distinctive dress and should wear short coats, not long ones. This will move them to shame and thus break off the means of obtaining converts. In the event of there being any apprehension as to the missionaries objecting to the above plan, they can be told that since they exhort and encourage natives to join their religion

religion, those who become converts
it is right that they should be known
and be different from the masses.

That for a man to embrace
Christianity and not be willing
to acknowledge the fact is the
same as saying that he is
ashamed of being a convert and
the foreign missionaries would
not consent to any convert saying
that he felt ashamed of the religion
he espoused. Further if converts
are not distinguished from
non christians, then the local
officers will have no way to giving
protection to them. Therefore to
require that native Christians should
be specially registered would be a
secret way of ridiculing them; to
give them tablets (to be hung over
the doors of their houses) would
manifestly make known their
religious profession, and the
wearing of a different dress
would

would clearly shew that they were converts.

For instance, for a Chinaman in the presence of missionaries or in the chapels to admit his conversion, but in the presence of outsiders to disclaim it would manifestly shew that he is ashamed of his religious profession. How could the missionaries have any regard or esteem for such an one, professing Christianity. The missionaries would not be able to reason against such an argument. By the adoption of the above plan the converts would not dare to act as they please and insult people, and on the other hand, the natives would not dare to lightly and without thought, become converts (lit:) to make a trial of religion). The officials would then be enabled to ascertain the number of converts. Your memorialist Fu Lin, believes that

that the above plan will answer in all the provinces and is of the opinion that it had best be put into execution first in the Yueh provinces. And he begs that instructions be sent to the Viceroys and Governors to order the officials of the Chows and Hsiens to have a large quantity of small tablets prepared and to take action in accordance with the plan submitted. Thus the temper and general feeling of the people toward Christianity will surely lessen and die out.

The treaty of Tientsin clearly provides that missionaries are not to interfere with Chinese cases, but there are many of the magistrates of the Chows and Hsiens who are afraid of trouble and for that reason they quietly give way and settle the cases which arise, according to

their

their own views, and do not exert themselves to the proper discharge of their duties.—

(Signed) R. D. Cheshire.

Enclosure 32.

Whereas a paper posted in the Yamên and widely circulated in the streets of Canton purporting to be a Memorial to the Throne from the Imperial High Commissioner Ts'aney Yü Lin contains serious charges against Christian Missionaries and Churches, it was resolved at a Conference of the Protestant Missionaries of Canton that a committee of one from each nationality represented, English American and German, be appointed to place on record our protest against these charges, and to present the same to our respective Consuls with the request that they forward it to Peking to be presented to the Tsungli Yamên.

In the name of and in behalf of the Conference we wish to call attention to the following points:

points:-

(1) In the aforesaid memorial it is averred that "since the treaties "have permitted foreigners from the "West to spread their doctrines the "morals of the people have been greatly "injured". Again, that "the churches "have become refuges for men who "seek to escape the demands of the "law." Again, it is implied that "missionaries interfere with the "due administration of justice in "the courts and prisons." In speaking of Christians the term Kiáu min (教民) is used, and embraces both Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians.

(2.) As Protestant missionaries we wish most emphatically to deny that we have sought or do seek to establish any imperium in imperio, or claim any right of asylum in our churches or seek in any way to secure

for

for the Chinese Christians under our care any exemption from the penalties justly due for any infringement of the civil law. All that we desire is that Christians should be treated with the same tolerance and favour that is extended to the followers of Mahommedism, Buddhism, Taoism or Confucianism, and not be villified and oppressed and spoken of as aliens and rebels*, but be regarded as loyal Chinese subjects.

(3) We do not knowingly retain any men of immoral character in connection with our Churches.

(4) If the Chinese authorities wish to make such charges against the Roman Catholics who claim the protection of France with which country China is now in a state of war, we claim that in fairness some distinctive

distinctive name should be used, and that missionaries from England, America, and Germany, should not be included in the charge by the employment of a term understood as applying to Christians in general.

We would respectfully state that we feel it due to ourselves as well as to the churches and the nationalities which we represent that these matters should be placed in a clear light before the Chinese Government.

(Signed) R. H. Graves
(") J. Ebring.
(") Grainger Hargreaves

*. That this is done by the Chinese Authorities we have frequent proof E.g. The following from a proclamation by the Provincial Judge

judge, dated 21st of 7th month of the present year. -

"As to the ignorant people who are followers of Christianity."

"They are also our subjects"

"If they return and repent."

"They will be permitted to purge themselves".

"As to how they will be treated"

"the mandarins will hold the balance (justly)"

無知隨教
猶是吾民
翻然改悔
准予自新
如何處置
官有權衡

Mr. Richthofen

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Mr. Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 24th 1885.

W. F. D. Bunker to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
Accounts.

Synopsis.
Transmits statement of
salary account for
Quarter ending 31st December
1884.

One enclosure

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 24th 1885.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith a statement of my account for salary for the quarter ending the 31st of December 1884. 1/"

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your Obedient Servant
F D Chester

Enclosure. Statement of salary account as above.

Mr Rockhill

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Separate. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 24, 1885.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwards salary account as Second
Secretary of Legation for 4th quarter 1884.

Separate. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, January 24, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you herewith my salary account for the fourth quarter 1884, together with a statement for the third quarter in lieu of the one which I had the honor to forward on the 13th October, 1884, both of which accounts are supported by the necessary vouchers. 1/ 2/

In the account which I previously sent for the third quarter 1884, I had taken no account of

the

the depreciation of Mexican dollars and the loss by exchange, which in this case left a balance to my credit of $31.20 Mexican, which I have carried forward on my account for the 4th quarter 1884.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill.

Second Secretary of Legation.

Inclosures.

1. Salary account for 3d quarter, 1884.

2 " " " 4th quarter, 1884.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED

Wm Edwards

No. 632

Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 24, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

PRINTED
1885

Subject.

Memorial of the High Commissioner at Canton about Christians.

Synopsis.

Correspondence between H. B. M's Consul at Canton and the Viceroy. The Viceroy orders the suppression of the incriminated publication and the destruction of the blocks from which it was printed.

No. 632. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, January 24, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir,

In my despatch No. 631 dated January 21, 1885, I had the honor to send you a communication from Mr. Consul Seymour in regard to affairs at Canton. Mr. Seymour forwarded a petition from the missionaries in Canton, addressed to the British, German and American Legations in regard to a memorial written by high Chinese officials making invidious suggestions as

to

to converts to Christianity. The matter was discussed at length with Sir Harry Parkes and Mr. van Brandt. The papers submitted at our conference by Sir Harry Parkes were more explicit than those sent to the Legation by Mr. Seymour. Two of
2/632. these papers I enclose. It seems that H.B.M's Consul on the 21st of November called the attention of the Viceroy to the tenor of the proclamation. The reply of H.E. in the opinion of Sir Harry Parkes, Mr. van Brandt any myself seemed to be as satisfactory as we could expect from the Chinese authorities. The Viceroy disowns the published memorial as inaccurate, and informs H.B. M's Consul that he has suppressed

the

the publication and destroyed the blocks.

After mature deliberation it was thought best not to send the Yamên a formal note but to make the subject me of informal conversation with the Ministers when we next had occasion to see them on business. While it is not well to allow declarations in violation of treaty, such as are contained in the memorial to which I refer, to pass without notice, the fact that the Governor General of Canton had, in his letter to H. B. M's Consul, anticipated any action we could have demanded, deprives the incident of the importance attached to it in my despatch

No.

No. 631, dated January 21, 1885. I trust that the conclusion reached by my colleagues and myself will meet with the approval of the Department.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sir Lascelles Guy

Inclosures.

1. Mr. Hance to Governor General Chang. November 21, 1882.
2. Governor General Chang to Mr. Hance. December 5, 1882.

Enclosure 1.

N. M. Acting Consul Nance to
Governour General Chang.

21st November, 1884.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform
you that I recently bought a
pamphlet (which was being sold)
in the streets, containing the draft of
a memorial written by you, the
Governour General, the Junior
Guardian Ts'eng and Governour Ki,
and that on opening it I found it
contained a paragraph relating to
Christian Converts. I do not know
whether this draft is genuine or
not, but if in the midst of the
people (such a work) is printed
and sold both within and without the
city, ignorant people seeing it, will
regard converts to the Christian
religion with feelings of hatred. If
(the people) reflect that (the teaching)
originates

originates with foreigners, the evil (feelings) will be turned on the foreign officials, merchants and others, who reside in the province; and thus disturbances of the place can easily take place.

Now that the Licentiate examinations are taking place, the provincial capital is necessarily full of people, and I fear that disturbances could be easily caused. I, the acting Consul, being desirous that Chinese and foreigners should live in peace together, am of opinion that precautions should be taken and therefore have the honour to request you, the Governour General to direct your subordinates to prevent the draft of this memorial being sold in every place: thus preserving peace between Chinese and foreigners.

I enclose a copy (of the pamphlet) for your inspection.

I have, &c &c &c.

Enclosure 2.

Governor General Chang to
N.B.M's Acting Consul Nance.

5th December, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of a despatch from you dated the 21st ult.o to the following effect (here quotes No. 80 - Sentin No. 128).

I have to observe that the printing of the Memorial was in the 5th moon when my predecessor N. E. Chang was in office, and is not a matter which has occurred during my governance. - In (the pamphlet) the phraseology is incorrect and there are many places where it does not agree with the original draft. It is a characteristic of the Canton people to love novelty and dislike what is antiquated. When they happen to see or hear anything in the market place, they will arrange and concoct circumstances,

and

and compose an article on it which they print and sell with a view to making a profit. Hitherto, as nothing of importance was touched on, the local authorities took no means of prevention, but the printing of these 2 pamphlets and their wanton falsification is most blameworthy. Orders have been given to the Prefect and Magistrates to take vigourous measures for their suppression, and to find and destroy the blocks from which they were printed. Friendly relations have existed for many years between our respective countries and the intercourse of the (two) states is constant and stable. The people and the converts however cannot get on together and are eternally in quarrel and litigation, whereby disorder is bred. Preaching the Gospel was long since allowed by treaty, and can by no means be now disallowed. How

Missionaries

missionaries from Western lands of course keep strictly to the rules of their doctrine and do not interfere in matters outside it; but many unprincipled people in the interior, not believing in the doctrine from the bottom of their hearts, become converts in name only and, relying (on Christianity) as on a charm to protect them, create trouble to the detriment of order in the villages. Thus do they injure the reputation of the Chapels and give birth to suspicion and dislike between Chinese and foreigners. This class of persons does double harm (i.e. to the Chapels and to the people) and should undoubtedly be sought out and preventive regulations made so as to avoid a further continuous series of troubles and re-establish the former state of tranquility. This year the Chinese and foreign Ministers have been holding a discussion with a view to devise a plan

of

of united action so that internal affairs may be tranquil and foreign relations friendly.

There is not the slightest desire to incite the hatred of the Chinese against converts or to injure the interests of the officials and merchants of other nations. The examinations are now over and the country is quiet as formerly. You may therefore cast away all suspicion and doubt.

Shaw Tsen

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 633.

Legation of the United States

No. 22. Peking, 26th January, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the

Secretary of State.

Subject.

Passports.

Synopsis.

Further reference to Department's Despatch No. 342 on the issue of Passports. Mr. Young forwards a correspondence between Legation and Vice Consul Bandinel of Niuchuang on the subject.

No 633. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 26th January, 1885.

To the,

Honourable Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen

Secretary of State.

Sir,

As a further reference to my Despatch No 560 dated, November 25th 1884, I have the honour to send you a correspondence between the Legation & Mr. Bandinel our Vice Consul at Kiuchuang.

I am in hopes, as I said to Mr. Bandinel, that when the Department has given further

further consideration to the question of issuing passports, under the exceptional conditions existing in China, that it will be found that a return to the practice established by your predecessor Mr. Fish will be accepted as carrying out the intent of the law. It is of course no inconvenience to enforce the amended regulation as directed in your Despatch No. 342 dated, September 27. 1884. The inconvenience will fall entirely upon our citizens at the outlying ports, and this I am persuaded that the Department as well as the Legations would like

like to avoid.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Thos Rowdell Young.

Enclosures.

No. 1. Mr. Bardinel to Mr. Young.

No. 139 I. 12th January, 1885.

2. Mr. Young to Mr. Bardinel.

No. 65. 26th January, 1885.

No. 1394. Inclosure 1

Mr. Bandmiel to Mr. Young.

No. 7

12th January, 1883.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Y. E.'s despatch No. 62; and in accordance with the same shall discontinue obtaining local passes from Chinese Officials for American citizens.

In explanation of my former action I enclose copies of three despatches on the subject of Passports and Local passes.

I am &c

(Signed) J. J. Fred.k Bandmiel.

Pro Consul.

— Enclosures —

Mr. Myers to Mr. Bandmiel (with Enclosure)

Mr. Bandmiel to Mr. Seward.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bandmiel.

No. 87.

Mr. Myers to Mr. Bandinel.

28th Dec. 1876.

Sir,

Enclosed I have the honour to hand you a copy of an instruction No. 41. issued by H. E. Mr. Seward relating to passports. The copies sent to me by the Minister are available upon application.

I also enclose herewith four copies of two rules regarding Likin taxes and Drawbacks which have been communicated to the Legation by the Chinese Govern.t and approved by Mr. Seward.

I am &c

(signed) John C. Myers.

Consul General.

No. 41.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Meyers.

No

December, 11th, 1876.

Sir,

The Secretary of State having instructed me that it is not competent for Consular Officers to issue passports for use in the interior of China, as has been the practice, I am constrained to request you to refrain from doing so hereafter.

In order that the least possible annoyance may be occasioned to our people in consequence, I transmit to you herewith twenty five forms of passports which I have signed and sealed with the Legation seal. They may be issued by you to applicants who are able to comply with the laws and the instructions of the Depart. of State as declared in Art. XI, of the Consular Regulations.

You will notice that a

Chinese

Chinese translation of the form is written on the flyleaf. In case the passport is to be issued in China, it should be transmitted to the Intendant of Circuit, with a request to place his seal on the Chinese part. It should be dated to correspond with the English text and the Chinese name of the holder written in.

Will you please inform the several Consuls that passports may be obtained for them by applicants, either from this Legation or from your office. In applying for them it will be necessary to send up the descriptions and declarations required by the Regulations, the Chinese names of the applicants, if the passports are to be used in China, and the fees. Passports thus issued from your office should be visé'd by the Intendent of Circuit of the Consular district from which the application comes.

The fee for a passport is $5.- No farther charges should be made for the

the letters written, the oaths, or any other services pertaining to the issue of passports.

At the end of each quarter, you will please send to me a statement of the passports which you have issued, together with the original declarations &c. The fees you may hold subject to my order. They are not to be embraced in your account of Treasury fees.

It is not understood that the instructions of the Secretary of State is intended to interfere with the application of our Consular Authorities to local officers for the issuance of such passports by them, as may be in accordance with their regulations.

I am &c.

(Signed) George F. Seward.

No 13/47 3.

Mr. Bandinel to Mr. Seward.

14th January, 1878.

Sir,

On the 14th Feb. last I recd from Mr. Consul Genl. Myers a despatch dated 28th Dec. 1876 enclosing copy of a despatch No. 41 from H. E. stating that the Secretary of State had decided that it was not competent for Consular Officers to issue passports for use in the interior of China, as had been the practice.

The last paragraph of the despatch runs as follows. "It is not understood that the instruction of the Secretary of State is intended to interfere with the application of our Consular Authorities to local officers for the issue of such passes by them as may be in accordance with their regulations."

Presuming this to refer in the case of this Consulate, at any rate to the province of Southern Manchuria,

I

I have obtained the seal of the Mandarin of Shan Hai Kuan to Chinese passes for three U.S. Citizens, who were desirous of proceeding for purposes of shooting, bathing, and drinking the waters at some Sulpher Springs situated 40 or 50 miles inland, and to which early every year many of the residents at this fort repair for similar purposes.

I have not charged any fee for these passports, nor have I attached the seal of this Consulate, nor accompanied them by any document in English.-

Soliciting H.E.'s instructions, if I have erred in this matter.

I have &c

(Signed) Fred.K. Bandmel

Vice Consul.

No. 35.

Mr. Seward to Mr. Bandinel.

February, 4th, 1878.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches, Nos. 12/471 and 13/473.

Recurring to the matter of "Local Passes" mentioned in your later despatch, you seem to have correctly understood the clause which you quote from my No. 41 to Mr. Myers. The essential point is that such passes should be issued by the Chinese Officials, and not by the Consul, and, hence, should not bear a Consular seal or endorsement.

I am &c.

(Signed) George F. Seward

No. 65 Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Bandinel.

January, 26th, 1885.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge your despatch No. 139 in reference to the instructions of the Hon. Sec. of State touching the issue of passports. I have written the Dep.t my views regarding the new regulation, pointing out the inconveniences that must attend its enforcement in China. I am in hopes that further consideration will result in a return to the practice sanctioned by Mr. Fish, and explained by my predecessor Mr. Seward in the Enclosure No. 3. attached to your despatch. This in my opinion carried out the intent and spirit of the law, and was certainly

to

to the advantage of our people in far away ports like Kiuchuang.

I am &c.

(Signed) John Russell Young.

File

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 16 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 634.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 26, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Acknowledging receipt Department
despatch No. 362 of Nov. 19, 1884.

No. 634.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, January 26, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 362 dated November 19, 1884, together with its several inclosures.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant
Chas. Denby Jr.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 30 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 635. Resignation asked for by telegraph

Legation of the United States.
Tokio, January 27th 1885.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State

Subject.

Mr Young tenders his resignation

Synopsis.

In view of recent events, Mr Young places his office at the disposal of the President, expressing his desire to do all in his power to serve his successor. He commends to the special notice of the Department the gentlemen at present attached to the

Legation

Legation, as worthy and
conscientious officials.

No. 635.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 29th 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

The recent mails from the United States give full details of political events at home. I am naturally anxious that our new President should have no embarrassment in entrusting the important position I have the honor to hold, to one who possesses the entire confidence of the administration. I

beg

beg you, therefore, with due respect, to lay before the President my resignation of the office of Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the United States to China.

It is unnecessary for me to say that I shall do everything in my power to assist my successor in entering upon his duties. In this, or in any other way that I can serve the administration, I am entirely at the service of the President.

In a few weeks I shall have been three years

years minister. During that
time events of great
importance have transpired.
I have endeavored to do what
I could to advance American
interests. How far I have
succeeded the archives of the
Legation will show. Wherever
I have failed the fault must
rest with myself alone, as
I have received from the
Department the utmost
support and encouragement
For this confidence I am
grateful, and I trust you
will not object to my
giving an expression to this
feeling in an official form.
I deem it my
duty

duty to bear testimony in regard to the gentlemen who form my staff.

The position of first secretary is vacant. Mr Lekeshire came here in July, under telegraphic orders from the Department as acting secretary. Since then he has received the President's commission as interpreter. I have informally recommended that Mr Lekeshire's grade should be that of Chinese secretary; and I trust that the Department will make this designation. Mr Lekeshire has been many years in the

consular

authority
Laws for
this case

consular service at Canton, Foochow and Shanghai and, so far as I know, has won the esteem of all with whom he has served. It is in the interest of civil service reform that gentlemen of good character like Mr Denby, who, in addition to official experience, have a knowledge of the Chinese language likewise, should be retained.

Mr Rockhill, who came here in September as second secretary, is an able and accomplished gentleman, about thirty years of age, familiar with the French language, a student of

Oriental

Oriental languages and the author of books on Oriental subjects showing study and research. I have found him in every respect an admirable secretary taking the deepest interest in his work. I sincerely trust that no change will be made which will remove him from the Diplomatic service.

Mr Berghol holds the commission of Vice-Consul at Chinkiang. When Mr Smithers returned to his consulate Mr Berghol came to Pekin and has acted with efficiency and

industry

industry as my private secretary. He has had three years consular and diplomatic experience and knows the routine of both services admirably. He is familiar with the German language, having been educated in Germany. I should like to see Mr. Berghol[illegible] attached to either the consular or diplomatic service permanently, and his experience in Cuba should not be lost to the Government. He accompanied me on my visit to the consulates last Spring and has, therefore, a knowledge of Cuba possessed by few, if

any

any other officials. He is worthy of consideration by the new administration as an efficient and well trained officer.

These three young gentlemen are all Americans. I am happy to have it in my power to bear testimony to their high character as officials who have done well whatever has been given them to do, with advantage to the Government and to the honor and dignity of the Legation

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Russell Sully

Ellis Stickhoeffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 30 1885
RECEIVED.

No 636.

Wm Edwards

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 27th 1885.

W. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Salary Account

Synopsis
Transmits abov account
for Quarter ending December
31st 1884, and advises balance
due having been transferred
to Account for Loss by Exchange.

No 636.

Legation of the United States.

Peking January 27th 1885

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a statement of my salary account for the quarter ending the 31st instant. 1/636

You will note that a balance due me is carried to a separate account for Loses by Exchange, which will be duly forwarded.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

Enclosure

Eudowne. Statement of
Salary Account for Quarter
ending December 31st 1884.

Mr Kickhoffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 30 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Denby

No 637.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 27th 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Account for Contingent Expenses.

Synopsis

Transmits abstract account for
Quarter ending December 31st 1884.

No 637.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 27th 1885.

Hon: T. F. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a statement of my account for Contingent Expenses for the quarter ending December 31st 1884. 1/637

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

[signature]

Enclosure. Statement of account for Contingent Expenses for fourth Quarter of 1884.

McKitchcuffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 30 1885
RECEIVED.

Dom Desp and Inc

No 638.

Legation of the United States.
Tehran, January 27th 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject

Account for Loss by Exchange
for 1884.

Synopsis

Transmits above account
and advises draft drawn
against it.

No 638.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 27th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to enclose herewith, a statement of account for losses by Exchange during the current year.

I have drawn upon you in the usual form for the amount therein involved and trust my draft will be duly honored upon presentation.

I have the honor to be,
Sir
Your Obedient Servant

1/638

Your Obedient Servant.

Th. Lund Lang.

Enclosure.

Account for losses by
Endangers during the
year 1884.

Mr Dickhoeffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAR 30 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, January 31st 1885.

Mr. F. D. Chevalier to the Secretary of State

Subject.
Loss by Exchange

Synopsis.
Translates account for loss by Exchange on Salary draft for Fourth Quarter. 1884.

No Enclosure.

Legation of the United States

Peking, January 30th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

Referring to my despatch of date the 24th instant forwarding my account for salary for fourth Quarter 1884, I have the honor to transmit herewith a separate account for loss by Exchange on draft drawn by me for same. 1/a

I have drawn upon you in the usual course for the amount thus shown to be due me, and beg that my draft will be duly honored upon presentation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant.

F. D. Chesbrough.

Enclosure.

Account for loss by Brehaney's
on salary draft as above.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 2 1885
RECEIVED.

Telegram. Cipher.

Legation of the U.S.
Peking, Feby 2, 1885.

Frelinghuysen
Washington.

Goldsborough continues insolent and insubordinate. Regret the necessity of requesting his immediate suspension.

George

Mr Kickhoeffer

W. H. Ward

Separate.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 2d, 1885.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwarding account for losses by exchange
on salary for 1884.

Separate.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 2d, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

Referring to my despatch of the 24th January forwarding my salary account for fourth quarter 1884, I have the honor to transmit herewith a separate account for loss by exchange on drafts drawn by me for the same. 1/

I have drawn upon you for the amount thus shown to be due me, and beg that my draft may be duly honored upon presentation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

Inclosure.

Account for loss by exchange on salary drafts for 1884.

To Ingersoll
No. 639 Apr. 7 '85 Encl. Regs. at N.Y. Cust. House
Copy

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 6th, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Chinese officials to New Orleans Exposition
trantled by U. S. Customs Authorities.

Synopsis.

Chinese government inform Mr. Young
informally that two officials deputed
to the New Orleans Exposition were
unnecessarily trantled by the New York
Customs authorities.

No. 639 Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 6th, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have received from the Chinese government informally an expression of regret that the Customs authorities should have given "an incredible and unnecessary amount of trouble", to the Chinese officials, two in number, deputed to attend the New Orleans Exposition, before they were permitted to land in New York. This is much to be regretted, as I had assured the government, as instructed in

in your despatch No. 288, dated May 26, 1884, that any representatives of China, who came to America to assist in this exposition, would have due courtesy and protection. Relying upon the integrity of that assurance, I have ventured to say, that any trouble that may have been given to the two Chinese officials by the New York Customs authorities, came from ignorance on their part, that when the President invited China to take part in the Exposition, it was intended that those who represented her should have the most cordial reception.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Inclosures.

1. Sir R. Hart to Mr. Young. 25/1883. Febry. 4, 1883.
2. Mr. Young to Sir R. Hart. 14/1882. Febry. 6. 1883.

No. 25/1885-

Sir Robert Hart to Mr Young.

February 4th 1885-

Dear Mr Young.

As it may interest you to know what our people in New Orleans are doing I send you the first report for perusal. When read, kindly return it to me.

The New York customs gave an incredible and unnecessary amount of trouble before they allowed the two Chinese to land.

Yours truly

(sgd) Robert Hart.

No. 14/1885

Mr Young to Sir Robert Hart.

February 6th 1885

My dear Sir Robert.

I return you your papers with many thanks for your courtesy in sending them. I regret more than I can say, that any trouble should have attended the landing of the Chinese in New York. It is quite inexplicable, and can only have arisen from the ignorance or capricious stupidity of some over-zealous officials. I know it will occasion much

regret

regret in Washington when
known.

Yours sincerely
Lt Adgt Jno. Russell Young

No. 640.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 7th, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Confirming Department's telegram
received this day.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 640.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 7th, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to confirm your telegraphic despatch without date received this day:

"Young. Minister.
Peking.

"France formally notifies us that war exists and that she will exercise rights of war on high seas observing declaration of Paris fifty-six as to neutral commerce. We are not asked to proclaim neutrality

"neutrality and we do not notify
our ships of risk if carrying
contraband. Inform Admiral.

(Signed) Frelinghuysen.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

Consul Seymour
Apr. 9. 85
Canton

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 641 Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 7th 1885.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack and approve Mr. Y's
action to send States -
APR 7 1885

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

The Consul at Canton withdraws
a passport from an American citizen.

Synopsis.

Mr Consul Seymour withdraws passport
from Mr. Nelson he being intoxicated
and turbulent. Mr. Young informs
the Consul General that he does not
approve of Mr. Seymour's action.

No. 641. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 7th, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

As a further reference to my despatch No. 482, dated July 31st, 1884, concerning the laws governing the issue of passports, I have the honor to forward for your information a copy of a despatch from Mr. Consul Seymour of Canton and of my reply to the Consul-General who had referred the matter to the Legation. 1/641 2/641

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant,

Jno. Russell Young

Inclosures.

1- Mr. Seymour to Mr. Stahel.
Dec^ber 31. 1884.

2. Mr. Young to Mr. Stahel.
No. 228. Febr.y 7. 1885.

No. 147. Enclosure.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Shahet.

Dec. 31st, 1884.

Sir,

I have the honour to return to you, or through you, to the U. S. Legation, five blank passports, no. 446 to 450, and also one passport, no. 412., which you sent to me on application of one I. M. Nelson; to whom I have not felt it my duty to deliver the passport, for prudential reasons, but chiefly because he became intoxicated and turbulent, while at the mining operations, in which he was employed, by a Chinese mining company, under the direction of an English Superintendent.

As the Chinese mining company and Nelson shared in the payment for the passport, which is withheld for valid

reasons.

reasons; will you accept the passport as a "returned", and permit the payment for it to apply on one of the passports issued and numbered 444 to 445?

I hope this may be done, as No 442 is sent to you to be cancelled, if so returned.

I send the package in the despatch box of Messrs. Russell & Co., who will send it, per S.S. "Chinkiang", to your room.

I will also make my remittance, for the passports issued, through that firm.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour.

U.S. Consul.

No. 228. Enclosure.

Mr. Young to Mr. Stahel.

7th February, 1885.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch No. 80, dated Jan. 17th I have the honour to say, that I have given careful consideration to the enclosure of Mr. Seymour declining to issue a passport to Mr. Nelson. Mr. Seymour says that he refused the passport, "for prudential reasons" because Mr. Nelson "became intoxicated and turbulent."

While I appreciate the motives of Mr. Seymour in taking this course, and am always disposed to be governed largely by the judgment

of

of the Consuls, in the several Consular districts, upon any question arising within their jurisdiction, there are one or two points that I must bring to the consideration of the Consul at Canton. The right to refuse a passport to an American citizen rests absolutely with the Legation, and cannot be waived. Nor do I see, that because Mr Nelson was unfortunate in his personal habits, he forfeited the protection of his country. If his indiscretions led to a breach of the peace, the Consul as a magistrate, clothed with judicial authority had the power under the laws to have restrained or punished him. The issue of a passport on the part of the Legation is optional not mandatory, but at the same time not to be withheld unless

for

for grave reasons. Thus in the event of war, where a citizen proposed to visit a undisturbed district - where there was an apprehension that he might engage in some act involving a breach of neutrality, or - where he might be of unsound mind, or be suspected of seeking to avoid the ends of justice, I can see how it would be proper to refuse a passport. None of these reasons seem to exist in the case of Mr. Nelson as reported by Mr. Seymour. And although the action of that faithful and judicious official has been governed by what he deems to be for the best interests of the service - I regret that it cannot receive the approval of the Legation.

If a Consul believes, as Mr. -

Seymour

Seymour does, in the case of Mr Nelson, that a passport should not be issued to an American citizen, his duty is to submit those reasons without delay to the Legation. It will then be for the Minister to decide whether they are valid or not, and thus carry out what I believe to be the intent of the law.

I have the honour to return herewith Mr Nelson's passport, which Mr Seymour withhold at Mr Nelson's disposal subject to ulterior instructions from this Legation.

You will please communicate a copy of this despatch to Mr Seymour.

I am &c &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosures.

1. Mr Seymour to Mr Stahel.
2. Mr Young to Mr Stahel.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Everett

No. 642 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 9th 1885.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Act'g as to file.
APR 21 1885

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.

Status of Mr Graydon

Synopsis

Mr Young refers to his despatch No. 605 and encloses copies of further correspondence with Mr Seymour.

No. 647 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 9th 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

As a further reference to my despatch No. 665 dated December 20th 1884, I have the honor to enclose a correspondence with Mr Consul Seymour in regard to Mr Graydon, formerly a lieutenant in our navy and now in the service of China. It will be remembered that Mr Seymour

I.2.

spoke

spoke of certain indiscretions on the part of Mr Graydon which caused him annoyance especially in his using the American flag without consular authority and harboring a deserter from one of our men-of-war.

Mr Seymour now reports that Mr Graydon has made a demand through his consulate upon the Chinese authorities at Canton for a balance of money said to be owing to him under a contract for the construction and laying of torpedoes.

Mr Seymour declines to press the claim without instructions

from

from the Legation.

I have felt it my duty to say to Mr Seymour that Mr Graydon, according to his statement, had been guilty of a serious neglect of the treaty. The provision to which I refer, namely article 38 in the treaty of 1858 stipulates that no American citizen shall have dealings with the Chinese authorities, or engage in correspondence with them, without the knowledge and approval of the consular authorities. The wisdom of this stipulation is apparent.

and

and I consider that Mr Graydon, in neglecting it, has deprived himself of his right to ask the support of the consulate in his dealings with the Chinese authorities.

At the same time there may be a justice in these demands from which Mr Graydon, as an American citizen, should not be deprived, because, as is not improbable, he established relations with the Canton viceroy in ignorance of the treaty. I should regret any hardship coming to him from such a cause. I

therefore

therefore said to Mr Seymour, that he should not hesitate, if in an informal way, by representations to the authorities at Canton, he could aid Mr Graydon in obtaining what was due him.

Hoping that my action may meet with the approval of the Department,

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Thos. Lincoln Young.

Enclosures.

1 Mr Seymour to Mr Young
No. 98. Jan. 12/05

2 Mr Young in reply
No. 121 Febr 9/05

No. 98. Enclosure.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Gourney.

January, 12th, 1885.

Sir,

I had the honour, in my despatch no. 93, dated 4th Dec. 1884, to give you some facts in regard to a man named John N. Graydon; who resigning his office as Lieut. in the U.S. Navy last summer, and entering into contracts with the Chinese Authorities for the supply of his system of torpedoes in defence of Canton; and, now, have the honour to report that on Saturday 10th inst., a Dane named Felschow, in the employ of said Graydon, called upon me to assist him in the collection of a claim for about two thousand dollars against the

Chinese

Chinese authorities, being a balance due, or claimed as due, on one of the several torpedo contracts.

I respectfully informed Mr. Felschow that I have no knowledge whatever of his authority to enter upon any such transaction or business with or through this Consulate; and that I could not take any steps in business of that nature, without a clear and distinct demand, or request, or application, from Mr. Graydon; and, that, when any such demand, request, or application comes from Mr. Graydon, I would refer the entire matter to the U.S. Legation in Peking.

I acquaint you with these facts, to prevent the possibility of any misunderstanding

misunderstanding in regard to Mr. Grayson's affairs, so far as they come under the notice of this Consulate; as he may hereafter attempt to blame everyone except himself for his fate.

The simple fact is that Mr. Grayson has not honourably or properly attended to business; but has been conducting himself foolishly for several months past, and the Chinese Authorities complain that he has not completed his contracts; but desire to pay money to him as he may need it, or be entitled to it, cheerfully.

Mr. Grayson, last month, became ill ~~in~~ Hongkong, and is yet under care of Dr. Manson; and wrote up to the present Provincial Treasurer Kung to

pay

pay whatever balance is due him to Mr. Volchow; who was also authorized to agree with Judge or Treasurer Kwang as to the amount of balance due.

This authority from Graydon to Volchow was written on one page of a half sheet of "commercial note paper"; and on a separate half sheet of the same kind of paper, he wrote "Yours &c" and affixed his signature.

The Provincial treasurer sent the Viceroy's interpreter, Mr. Tsai (formerly with the Chinese Legation in Washington) to me with these two half sheets from Mr. Graydon; and asked me whether such documents were regarded proper vouchers for money payments in America; to which I answered "no."

J

I also states that the question might be raised at any time, whether page 2, bearing Mr. Grayson's signature, was, or was not, the concluding portion of a friendly note, wishing Judge Kung a "happy new Year"

However, these papers were returned to Mr. Grayson; and he sent Mr. Felchow with correct papers back to Canton.

The Chinese officials also desired from Mr. Grayson some intimation of his plan or purpose for completing work under contract; and assurance was given that Mr. Felchow would complete the work contracted for.

It is well known that Mr. Grayson found Felschow, at the Canton Hotel,

out

out of Employment; & it is not known, or even asserted or claimed, that Telschow has any knowledge whatever as to torpedo service.

I learned on Saturday morning 10th inst.; before Mr. Telschow called, that he had unnecessarily offended Mr. Tsai, one of the most courteous of gentlemen, by some rudeness in their correspondence of the previous day; and that further negotiations with Mr. Telschow would not be tolerated by Chinese officials.

Furthermore, it came to my knowledge that by the arrival of the S. S. "City of Tokio," from San Francisco, 6th Dec., at Hong Kong 9th inst.; the family of Mr. Grayton had arrived;

also

also that his brother, who is said to be an experienced and competent business man, and thoroughly conversant with Grayson's system of torpedo-service, had come with the family. Their arrival was timely; as he was going from bad to worse.

As it had been generally known that John W. Grayson had sent for, and had expected his brother to come and take charge of his business in Shanghai; I felt sure that Mr. Telschow was not a man to invoke the assistance of this Consulate in collecting claims about which there seems to be no occasion for difference or conflict.

I am &c

(Signed) Charles Seymour
Am. S. General.

No. 647 Enclosure one.

Mr Young to Mr Seymour

No 121 Feb. 9th 1885.

Sir:

As a further acknowledgment of your despatch No 93. dated Dec 30. 1884. I have the honor to say that your action in regard to the claim of Mr Grayson against the Chinese Govt. is approved. As I pointed out to you in my despatch No 117. the treaty of 1858 expressly stipulates the manner in which American citizens should deal with the Chinese authorities. "If" says the treaty, "citizens of the U.S. have

Special

special occasion to address any communication to the Chinese local offices of govt. they shall submit the same to their consul or other officer, to determine if the language be proper and respectful, and the matter just and right, in which event he shall transmit the same to the appropriate authorities for their consideration and action in the premises."

Mr Grayson has failed in this, and not only failed but as you say, addressed annoying and improper messages to the Chinese authorities, messages

which

which never have been sent had they been submitted to your consular supervision as the treaty provides.

The question may be said to depend upon your own good will. Mr Graydon has chosen to ignore the authority of the consulate as expressly defined in the treaty. At the same time it might be well to consider the supposition that he may have acted through ignorance or indiscretion. In such a case, while he would have no claim upon the consulate or the legation.

J

I should not hesitate if in an informal way I could aid him in obtaining his just demands. Your action, however I leave to your discretion. The claim, as you present it, one which should be pursued in an official form. I shall not instruct you to do so without an instruction to that effect from the Dept. to whom the question has been referred.

Yours.

Hon. Jas. Russell Lowell

70 days
transit and
leave, at
pay at
salary as
not acting
Interpreter

He was
allowed
leave

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
FEB 11 1885
RECEIVED.

Sec. 1680 R.S.

China

W. H. Edwards

Washington, February 10th, 1885.

Chester Holcombe to
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Accounts.

Synopsis.

Submits statements of accounts
for transit allowance and
sixty days salary while on
leave of absence, and asks to be
authorized to draw in the usual
course for the amounts due.

Explains the basis upon
which these accounts have been
rendered.

The United States

To Chester Holcombe Dr.

84.

v. 1. To seventy days transit
allowance @ $5,000
per annum $951.09

E. & O. E.

Chester Holcombe
Secretary of Legation

Washington, February 10th, 1885.

The United States

To Chester Holcombe Dr.

4.

ec. 30. To sixty days salary while on leave of absence @ $5,000 per annum $815.22

E. & O. E.

Chester Holcombe

Secretary of Legation

Washington, February 10th 1885.

Washington February 10th 1885.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.

Sir:

As the Department is aware I received, at the end of March last, a leave of absence for 60 days with permission to visit the United States. The absence of the Minister from Peking from April to the end of July prevented me from taking advantage of that leave until in August. Upon the 18th of that month I was relieved of my duties and immediately thereafter started upon my journey home reaching Washington November 1st.

I have now the honor

to

to submit herewith — first
1/# a statement of my account
for seventy days transit #
allowance, and — second — a
2/# statement of account for #
salary during sixty days
leave of absence. And I beg
to be authorized to draw upon
you for these amounts in
the usual course.

The Department will
notice that these accounts are
made upon the basis of a
salary of $5,000 per annum
which has been allowed for
more than a score of years to
the person holding the offices
of Secretary and Interpreter
to the Legation at Peking.

In taking this basis of
calculation I have not been
ignorant of the fact that #
Congress, in its appropriations
for the diplomatic service for

the

the current year, fixed
separate amounts for the salaries
of Secretary and Interpreter.
But, as a matter of fact, I
performed the duties of both
these offices up to the day of
my departure from Peking,
and, as has already been
indicated, should have been
in the United States before the
day upon which the new
arrangement took effect but
for the fact that the absence of
the Minister from Peking made
my retention there imperative.
It would seem therefore to
be only just and equitable that
I should be granted my full
salary during my term of
transit and for sixty days
leave of absence especially
since the amount at present
allowed to the Secretary and
Interpreter at Peking is larger
by nearly a thousand dollars
than

than the salary paid to me heretofore.

The further fact that the amount claimed for transit is less than my actual and necessary traveling expenses, I submit for such consideration as the Department may be able to give to it.

I beg for this matter your early and favorable attention.

My address for the present is No. 745. Main St. Hartford Conn.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

Chester Holcombe

Enclosures.

Enclosures.

Statement of account for transit allowance.

Statement of salary account.

No 643.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 10th 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young.

to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Ward claims

Synopsis

Transmits certain correspondence in regard to funds belonging to Heirs of Gunther Estate.

No 643.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 10th 1885.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith copies of correspondence which have passed between the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Limited, the United States Consul General, Shanghai, and this Legation having relation to the funds paid by the Chinese Government to the Heirs of the Gunther Estate.

109/643.

I have the honor to be

Sir

Your

Your obedient servant

Jno. Russell Young.

Enclosures.

1. W. Young to Hongkong Shanghai Bank.
   Tientsin. January 5. 1885.
2. W. St Croix to W. Young. January 7th 1885.
3. W. Young to W. St. Croix January 9th 1885.
4. W. St. Croix to W. Young January 12th 1885.
5. W. Cheshire to W. St. Croix January 16th 1885.
6. W. St. Croix to W. Cheshire. January 20th 1885.
7. W. Cheshire to W. St. Croix January 27th 1885.
8. W. St. Croix to W. Cheshire January 29th 1885.
9. W. Young to Genl. Stahel. January 31st 1885.

(No 223).

Enclosure 1.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 5th 1885.

Manager
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.
Tientsin.

Dear Sir:—

I will thank you to furnish me with a statement of the monies in your Bank, deposited by this Legation, to the credit of the Ward claims.

Yours faithfully
(signed) John Russell Young

Enclosure 2.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Tientsin, January 7th 1885.

To the Hon: John Russell Young.
U.S. Minister - Peking.

Dear Sir: —

I am in receipt of your letter of 5th instant, asking for a statement of monies deposited in this Bank to the credit of the Ward Claims. I do not appear to have any account open at this agency, the only account I have here is one in the name of the Hon: J. Russell Young and the amount at credit is Tals 1665.65.

Would you kindly favor me with further particulars and I will make necessary enquiries for you.

On the 24th of November

1884 I advanced to
W. Peughty $200. on your
behalf - Will you kindly
hand me you check for
this amount.

Iam, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully
(Signed) G.C. de St. Croix
Acting Agent

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 9th 1885.

G.B. de St. Brin Esqre.

Acting Agent Hongkong and Shanghai

Bank. Tientsin.

Dear Sir:—

I am in receipt of your letter of 7th instant for which please accept my thanks. In regard to the amount of Taels 1665.65 I will thank you to have it placed to the credit of the United States Legation, Peking, subject to the order of the Diplomatic Representative of the United States in China. When this money was deposited in your Bank it was my intention to have it placed to the credit of the US Legation and not to my private account as seems to have been the

care.

To reimburse you for
the amount of $200. -
paid to Mr. Beighley, I
Enclose my check on
Your Bank in Shanghai.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours Faithfully

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosure 4.

Hongkong and Shanghai
Banking Corporation
Tientsin.
January 12th 1885.

To the Honorable J. Russell Young
U.S. Minister &c &c
Peking.

Dear Sir:—

I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th instant enclosing a cheque for $200. for which I thank you.

As requested I have transferred the amount of Th 1665.65 appearing at your credit to the credit of the "United States Legation Peking" for which amount I beg to enclose a Pass Book.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully
(signed) G.L. de Mt Cohn
Acting Manager

Legation of the United States.

Peking, January 16th 1885.

G. B. de St Croix Esqre.

Agent of the Hongkong and Shanghai

Bank. Tientsin.

Dear Sir:—

I am directed by the United States Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of 12th instant, enclosing Pass Book, representing the amount of Th 1665.65 which you have transferred to the account of the United States Legation, as requested.

Mr Young will thank you to have the account altered to represent Shanghai Taels 1742.92 principle, to be deposited on your Bank on interest and kept in Shanghai currency,

and

and any deficit there may be necessary to bring the present amount - 1665 - 68 Tls) up to that figure, he will send you by check on Shanghai.

As the account is a Government one, Mr Young is most anxious to have it exactly correct and to be kept in Shanghai Taels. He is now making replies to correspondence with parties in interest in the United States before making the final disbursement.

I enclose Pass Book which please return after making the alteration requested - and oblige.

Yours faithfully

(signed) F. D. Cherbino

Enclosure 6.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Tientsin 20th January 1885.

F. D. Cheshire Esquire
U.S. Legation.
Peking

Dear Sir:—

I am in receipt of your letter of the 16th instant. With reference to the United States Legation account Current with this Branch the amount at credit at date is Tientsin Taels 1665.65 on which interest at 2% is due from 29th Nov last.

Will you kindly inform me if you wish the account kept here in Tientsin on Current account or on Fixed deposit and if the latter for what period; Or if you want

the

the account sent to our Shanghai Branch to be kept there in Shanghai Taels on Current Deposit or on Fixed Deposit.

As the account Tientsin Taels 1665.$\frac{65}{100}$ approximates the sum of Shanghai Taels 1742.$\frac{92}{100}$ I shall be glad to meet your wish in ordering the Exact amount of Shanghai Taels 1742.$\frac{92}{100}$. Our accounts are kept here in Tientsin Taels only.

I might suggest that in case you are closing the account soon it would be as well to let the account remain as it stands at present and when you are withdrawing the funds

I can give you the exact
amm of Shanghai Taels 1,742.92.

On the other hand, on accept
of a reply from you I shall
be happy to adjust the account
in any way you may name.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully

(signed) G.L. de St. Croix

Acting Agent.

Enclosure 1.

Legation of the United States
Peking, January 27th 1885.

G. C. de St Croix Esqre
Agent Hongkong and Shanghai
Bank. Tientsin.

Dear Sir:—

In answer to your letter of 20th instant, I am directed by the United States Minister, to request you to transfer the funds at present on your Bank to the credit of this Legation to your Shanghai branch, to be kept there on current deposit to the account of the heirs of the Gunther Estate, subject to the order of the United States Consul General at Shanghai.

It is understood that the amount

amount is to be rendered
in Shanghai Taels 1742. 92/100

I am, Sir,

Your faithfully

(signed) F. D. Sherman

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

Tientsin 29 January 1885.

F. D. Chesbrough Esquire.
United States Legation.
Peking.

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the request contained in your letter of 27th instant, I have transferred the sum of Shanghai Taels 1742.92 to our Shanghai Branch for credit in Current account of the Heirs of the Gunther Estate subject to the order of the United States Consul General at Shanghai. Herewith closing the United States Legation account here as per Pass Book, enclosed.

Yours Faithfully,
Gh. de St. Croix
Acting Agent.

Enclosure 4.

No 223.

Legation of the United States

Peking, January 31st 1885.

General Julius Stahel.
United States Consul General.
Shanghai.

Sir:—

I have the honor to inform you that I have had the money awarded to the Gunther Estate by the Chinese Government viz: Shanghai Taels 1742.92 deposited in the Shanghai Branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, on current deposit, to the credit of the "Heirs of the Gunther Estate" subject to the order of the United States Consul General at your port.

When the money is paid to the parties in interest, please take receipts in triplicate, duly certified to officially, to be sent to this

His Excellency.

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(signed) John Russell Young

Mr Buckhausen

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 11th 1885.

W. F. D. Cheshire to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Account for Losses by Exchange.

Synopsis.
Transmits duplicate account
for Losses by Exchange for
1884.

Separate

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement for loss by Exchange on my salary draft for the year 1884. 1/—

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

J. B. Cheshire.

Enclosure.

Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Strickhoffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

Separate.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 11th 1885.

W. F. D. Chester to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Salary Account.

Synopsis.
Transmits duplicate salary account for Quarter Ending December 31st 1884.

Separate

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

Hon: T. F. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to send you enclosed a duplicate statement of my salary account for the fourth Quarter of 1884. 1/-

I have the honor to be.

Sir.

Your Obedient Servant.

F. D. Cheshire.

Enclosure.

Duplicate statement of salary account for fourth Quarter 1884.

Grant

743- Main St-
Office + Quarters
Hdqrs 18 cinfy
Hartford Conn

w/ Enclosure

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 11 1885
RECEIVED.

Washington, February 11th, 1885.

Chester Holcombe to
the Secretary of State

Subject:
Leave of absence.

Synopsis.
Requests a further extension
of forty days.

Washington, Feb. 11th, 1883.

Honorable F. T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State.

Sir:—

I have the honor to request a further extension for forty days of my leave of absence from my post as Secretary of the Legation of the United States at Peking.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant.
Chester Holcombe

Mr Kickhoeffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

No 644.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

W. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State

Subject

Salary Account

Synopsis

Transmits Duplicate Salary Account for Fourth Quarter 1884.

No 644. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

Hon: T. F. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my salary account for the quarter ending December 31st 1884. 1/64

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Enclosure. Duplicate statement of salary account as above.

Mr Kickhoeffer

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

No 645.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States
Peking, February 11th 1885.

W. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject

Contingent Expense Account

Synopsis

Transmits duplicate Contingent
Expense Account for the
Fourth Quarter 1884.

No 645. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to send you enclosed a duplicate statement of the account for Contingent Expenses of this Legation for the Quarter ending December 31st 1884. 1/645

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

[signature]

Enclosure. Duplicate statement as above.

Mr Frelinghuysen

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

No 646.

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 11th 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject.
Loans by Exchange.

Synopsis
Transmits duplicate account
for loans by Exchange for
year 1884.

No 646 One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 11th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to hand you enclosed duplicate statement of my account for house hire by Embassy during the year 1884. 1/646.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

John Russell Young.

Enclosure. Statement as above

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 3 1885
RECEIVED.

Treasury
No. 647.
Navy
Apr. 7. 85
Cirlo

Mr Edwards

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 12th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Forwarding "Notice to Mariners 187."

No. 647. One Inclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 12th February, 1883.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you herewith for your information a copy of "Notice to Mariners, No. 187", issued by the Chinese Maritime Customs.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Inclosure
1- Notice to Mariners, No. 187.

NOTICE TO MARINERS,

FEB
1 1
885
UATION

No. 187.

CHINA SEA.

Yangtze River—Kiukiang District.

SPENCER ROCK LIGHT-BOAT.

NOTICE is hereby given that a light-boat, showing a *white* light of the sixth order, visible in clear weather at a distance of 7 miles, will replace the floating frame, carrying an ordinary *white* light, by which the Spencer Rock was formerly marked during the low stage of the river.

By Order of the Inspector General of Customs,

A. M. BISBEE,

Coast Inspector.

IMPERIAL MARITIME CUSTOMS,

COAST INSPECTOR'S OFFICE,

SHANGHAI, 26*th January* 1885.

通行曉諭事照得本巡工司前奉
總稅務司赫　憲劄行以沿海沿江建造鐙塔浮椿等事或係創設或宜改移或有增添或須裁撤營造既有變更務即隨時彰明出示通曉各處俾得行江海船隻周知徧喻等因茲本巡工司查九江關稅務司所屬界內蓮花洲向設之浮架改用鐙船合將其情形開列於左

計開

一長江池州府東流縣蓮花洲一名沙石埂　附近江之南岸向於江水極淺時所設之小鐙浮架現擬撤去改設小鐙船一隻上置六等白光常明鐙晴時應照二十一里

爲此合卽遵行出示通曉各處船隻其務宜留心詳記以免疎虞勿忘勿忽切切特示

光緒　十年　十二月　十一日　第一百八十七號示

Received at 9.45 a.m. April 3rd

Mr Edwards

No. 648 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, February 12. 1885.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

Subject.

The case of Mr Goldsborough.

Synopsis.

Mr Young confirms his telegram of February 2nd, with explanations.

No. 648 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States
Peking, February 12th 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to confirm my telegram to you of the 2nd instant as follows:

"Goldsborough continues violent and insubordinate. Regret the necessity of requesting his immediate suspension."

I sent you this despatch with the utmost regret. The Goldsborough

Goldsborough for months has assailed the Legation in public despatches and private letters, in the most vindictive manner. So long as these attacks were personal to myself, I preferred to pay no attention to them. Copies of the public despatches were sent to the Department, and it was for the Department to say what was due to the dignity and honor of the service.

Mr Goldsborough has, however, chosen to send me a despatch, a copy

54

of which I enclose, reflecting on my official reputation, containing a base and cowardly calumny. "He", meaning myself, "Mr Goldsborough says "is accused of all "kinds of jobbery, and "it is too bad."

As I have said, this is a base and cowardly calumny and such as no minister should be expected to endure from a consul. If Mr Goldsborough, or any of the slanderers, with whom he seems himself to be in

correspondence

correspondence, can show that I have, directly or indirectly, either for myself or my friends, been concerned in any transaction not known to the Department or that I have, since I have been minister, received a dollar, that did not come to me from the Treasury by due process of law, I am willing to accept all the consequences of such an act. His statement is an unqualified falsehood.

Under section 115

of

of the Consular Regulations. I could, perhaps, have suspended Mr Goldsborough for this and other offences, which the law writers regard as "flagrant" violations of duty on the part of a consul. I have had in this disagreeable business, really no feeling but a regret that he should have become involved in an ignominious quarrel and a hope that he would be able to adjust it without trouble. I think, however, that even

patience

patience should have a limit, and that I am justified in asking the Department to withdraw from the service in China, a person capable of writing in an official despatch, a calumny so gross and unfounded, as that to which I refer.

I am Sir
Your obedient servant

Enclosures
1 Mr Goldsborough to Mr Young.
No 215 Dec 31/84
2. Mr Young in reply.
No 82 Feb 12/85

No. 645. Enclosure one.
Mr Goldsborough to Mr Young
No 215 Dec. 31. 1884

Sir:

I have not had the honor to receive your acknowledgment of my despatch No 209, dated Nov. 21. 1884 nor have you favored me with a "copy of the medical man's certificate" (Para 4th) procured at "T. Co. suggestion" can it be another of his forgeries? or is it a joint production of his and his Chinese opium smuggling partner, which you would prefer I should not see?

I

I did, however receive your despatch No 74 dated Dec. 4 1884, together with its enclosures.

Will you inform me why you sent me such a paper, and received too, by you some 6 months before! It bears date "Kwang Hsü 10th year, 5th moon, 14th day." i.e. June 7th 1884. Did you wish to furnish still another illustration of the virtuous results growing out of the pleasant attentions and encouragement, which you have given to your "admirer and man of good name"

name "(St. Julian Hugh—
Edwards Esquire") whom
you "saw" more than "once
in the cabin of a man of-
war" (you would doubtless
be pleased to obliterate the
memory of the reception
which you gave to him
and that other rascal
villain and fugitive
Franco, upon the afternoon
of May 13th last) although
you declare otherwise, and
to whom you had so much
"honor". and doubtless so
much pleasure in writing
upon Feb 20th (or 26th) 1884. after
too, you were well informed
concerning his infamous

Character

character and performances, a tasty style of address from a minister of the U.S. to such a character!

Were the enclosure worthy of further notice. I would again call your attention to the certificate of the Rev. Dr. Talmage — concerning the matter (enclosure to my No 180 to you. dated May 19th 1874. and did I see fit, to even further and later villainy of Edwards in re Dawes.

Hoping W. Elwell Goldsborough Council

P.S.

P.S.

Statements after this fashion having reached Amoy from the North concerning Your Honor:

"He has about the worst reputation a man in his "position could well have."

"He is accused of all "kinds of jobbery & it is too bad."

If quite convenient it would be interesting to learn some particulars concerning some of the latter.

Yours

H. E. J.

No 645. Enclosure two.
Mr Young to Mr Goldsborough
No. 89 Febr. 12/05

Sir:

In your despatch No 215, I find the following sentences:

"Statements after this fashion having reached Lima from the North concerning Your Honor "He has about the worst reputation a man in his position could well have."

"He is accused of all kinds of jobbery; it is too bad."

I quite concur

in

it would be interesting to
learn some particulars
concerning some of the
latter."

So long as you confined your
attacks upon me to public
despatches and private letters,
making reflections of a
personal nature, I did not
intend to pay any attention
to them, so long at least as
I am a minister and held
towards you an official relation
That relation must always
have the first consideration.
That you say about my
"reputation" is a matter of
indifference as you are not
and never have been in a

position

position to form a judgment on that. But I must call your attention to this statement "He" you say, meaning myself "is accused of all kinds of jobbery, and it is too bad".

This, you must observe, is a reflection upon my official character. I must say to you in the first place that the statement is an absolute falsehood, embodying every element of falsehood. In the second place I must ask you for the name of any person who ever gave you authority to make such an assertion, or whether I am to assume that you

have

have made it upon your own
responsibility.

Yours

Sept 1. Jno. Russell Young.

Recd Apr. 20. 85
Copy to Navy Apr 20. 85

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

No. 649.

Two Inclosures.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ans. as directed.
Copy to Navy Dept. with
inclosure hereto
APR 13 1885

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 14th February, 1885.

K.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
Desertion in Canton.

Synopsis.

Mr. Consul Seymour requests the Chinese authorities to arrest a deserter from the U.S.S. "Alert". The deserter not arrested. Mr. Young informs Mr. Seymour of his regret that he should have relied upon the Chinese authorities, instead of having the man arrested by some of his people or the officer of another Consulate.

No. 649. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 4th. February, 1885.

Hon. Fredk. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I enclose for your information copies of a correspondence with Mr. Consul Seymour, in regard to Benjamin Taylor, a deserter from the U.S.S. "Alert"

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

Inclosures.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young. No. 99. Jan. 21. 1885.
2. Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour. No. Febry. 4. 1885.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

No. 99. Canton. January 21st, 1883.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, this afternoon, of your dispatch No. 111, dated 29th December 1882; and to comply with its requisition, by handing you appended copy of my despatch of November 25th 1882. to His Excellency, the Viceroy, in regard to a deserter, named Benjamin Taylor, from the U.S.S. "Alert"; and to report that ample time and opportunity having occurred, the said deserter was permitted to go away, to parts unknown.

I am, etc.,

(Sgd) Charles Seymour

U.S. Consul.

1/A

Copy. No. 28.

Consulate of the United States of America

Canton, November 25th 1884.

To His Excellency

Chang

Viceroy of the Two Quangs.

Sir:

The American Consul had the honor on the 4th day of last Month (October) to notify Your Excellency that a man named Benjamin Taylor had deserted from the American war-ships "Alert," then and now in the harbor of Canton; and Your Excellency replied under date of October 11th that proper measures, according to treaty requirements, would be adopted to discover and arrest that deserter.

The American Consul now has the honor to inform Your Excellency that

that information has been received by Captain Barclay, the Commander of said American war-ships "Alert," which leads him to believe that Benjamin Taylor, the aforesaid deserter, is in the Province of (Canton) Quang Tung; and is in the service of a person having contracts with the Chinese authorities, and is now engaged in assisting to lay or prepare torpedoes under the arrangements that are being made for the defense of Canton River.

As desertion tends to destroy order and discipline in the navy, if permitted to go unpunished, it is hoped Your Excellency will send good and trusty detectives and officers to arrest the said deserter; and not permit him to escape.

And when he is arrested, and

notice

notice of that fact is communicated to the American Consul, proper and legal measures will be adopted for the trial of the deserter.

The American Consul respectfully suggests to Your Excellency that unless the discovery and arrest of said deserter are promptly and discretly conducted, he may escape detection and arrest.

The American Consul avails himself of this opportunity to renew his assurances of highest esteem; and to send his compliments and card.

(Sgd) Charles Seymour
Consul of the United States of America.

Inclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour.

No. February 4, 1883.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch No. 99, I have to express the regret of the Legation that Benjamin Taylor should not have been arrested and submitted to justice. It would have been better to have had him arrested either by one of your own people, or an officer from some other consulate, than to have depended upon the Chinese authorities. This is an agency I should hesitate to invoke except in extreme cases, and only where there is no other method available. I hope still to learn that Taylor has been

arrested

arrested and returned to his ship.
Desertion is a much more serious offence
in China, so far away from home, where
there is no opportunity of recruiting
seamen, than it would be on our own
stations. For the interest of the navy,
a consul cannot shew too much
vigilance, in aiding our naval officers
to prevent it, and thus maintain the
integrity and discipline of their
command.

I am, etc.,

(Sgd) Tho. Russell Young.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ans. to Charge Smith and approve. Ap. 30
APR 13 1885

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Edwards

No. 650. Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking. February 14th 1885.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

Subject.
Neutrality.

Synopsis.
Enclosing copies of a correspondence with the Consul Wingate.

No. 650. Enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 14. 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I enclose for your information a correspondence with the Consul Kingate at Foochow.

It appears that an American firm asks the good offices of the consul to introduce giant powder and other explosives to the attention of the Chinese Government.

I.

I have said to the consul, that any influence he can use to advance an American interest, would be a performance of duty. I, however, thought it my duty to say that, considering the friendly relations between France and the United States, the Legation could not approve of a consul using his influence to supply the Chinese with articles of war to be used against the French.

I trust that this action will meet

meet with your approval.

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

Thos. Russell Young.

Enclosures.

1. Thos Hingate to Thos Young
No. 115 Jan 26/85
2. Thos Young to Thos Hingate
No 100. Feb 11/85

Mr Wright to Mr Young,
No. 115 Jan. 26/15
Extract.

Sir:

I do not usually enter communications like the No 327 received in my letter book. Such letters and business circulars are usually treated as unofficial If I can give any real information to the sender, I answer them but most red are evidently so ill adapted to the demands of this people that I think I am right in concluding that they are merely sent to the consulate because the sender finds the name of the place

11

in the consular directory & not as expecting an acknowledgment.

In a case like the one under consideration, I should, if a proper opportunity offered, speak to an official regarding a manufacture, by citizens of the U.S. but I could not, with propriety go further.

x x x.

Yours

Hon'd. J.C.A. Wingate

The Giant Powder Co. to Mr. Kingate.

San Francisco, Oct. 4/84.

Sir:

Owing to the present outlook for war between China and France, we desire to call your attention to and solicit your aid & advice with regard to placing before the notice of the Chinese Govt. our explosives.

The Giant Powder Co's patents, were acquired from the original inventor, Mr. Alfred Nobel, both for dynamite powders and his later discovery the "Explosive gelatine" the strongest of all known explosives.

F.

The name, Giant Powder was used for our dynamite powders, as being more simple, and more acceptable than "dynamite."

The Giant Powder Co., are to day the largest manufacturers of high explosives in the U.S. & perhaps the world. Having extensive works both in California & the East, & being fully prepared to furnish dynamite in any quantities upon the shortest notice & at prices which defy competition. We desire to enter every field where dynamite is or may be used.

Yrs

We address you as being in the position to forward our interests (mutually) and trust you may be able to place with that Govt. a quantity of our explosives.

We send you herewith circulars descriptive of the new "Explosive Gelatine" and will say that this powder deserves attention, particularly for torpedoes & similar purposes.

We are &c.,

(sgd) Bardman Watson & Co.,
General Agents

Copy.

Mr. Young to Mr. Wingate.

No. 100 14th February, 1883.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch No. 115, I have the honor to note your comments in regard to the letter you enclose from a San Francisco firm, offering to sell the Chinese explosive materials. Your action seems to have been judicious. The proper custom in all such cases — the one which the Legation follows — is to send the application to some mercantile firm, and allow the business to take its course. If it should be in the power of a consul to advance an American interest by speaking to the Chinese authorities

in

in commendation of the interest, — or in explanation of its merits, — or giving an assurance of its integrity, there is no reason why this should not be done, taking due care to show that your action is official not personal. At the present time, however, I should refrain from commending to the Chinese any manufacture, like powder, or fire-arms, or any other agency which could be used for a warlike purpose against France. Our relations with France are friendly, and I wish nothing done by any consular officer, even in an informal manner that might be regarded as a violation of the strictest neutrality.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd) Jno. Russell Young.

Sent by mail

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Edwards

No 651 Two enclosures.

Legation of the United States.
Peking February 14th 1885

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State

Subject
Affairs in Foochow.

Synopsis.
Enclosing copies of a
correspondence with Mr
Consul Wingate.

No. 651 Two enclosures

Legation of the United States,

Peking, February 14 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State,

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I enclose for the information of the Department a correspondence with the Consul Hingate in reference to events in Foochow!

I am Sir

Your obedient servant

[redacted]

Enclosures.

Enclosures.

1. Mr Hingate to Mr Young
No. 115. Jan. 26/05

2. Mr Young to Mr Hingate
No. 99 Febr. 14/05

H.M. Frigate to H.M. Consq.
No. 115- Jan 26/05-
Extract

Sir:

x x x x x x x

It is proper for me to report to you that on the 15th inst. the Chinese authorities seized for the purpose of transporting soldiers, five of Messrs. Hedge & Co's registered cargo boats, and placed the Chinese magistrates chop upon them; the only however was removed. The persons in charge were told that the boats were American owned, said they did not care.

Upon

Upon my reading to the officials, however, the boat was returned. The next day, in spite of the request I had made, three other boats were seized, removed, the locks broken and soldiers placed on board. I at once wrote to the Viceroy and orders were given to return the boats, but since the act was committed by the officials, I refused to receive them back until I had received an expression of regret for the action an assurance that the offence would not be repeated, and a payment

of damages.

Lui, Taotai, and the Sub Prefect for coast defences were sent to confer with me regarding a settlement and I have now received a despatch from the Viceroy, which while not all that could be desired is one I have accepted, the sum agreed to be paid to Messrs Kelger & Co. has also been received, and I am happy to call the case closed, without appealing to the Legation as I feared I might be compelled to do.

I am.

(Sgd) J. C. A. Hennessy

Copy.

Mr. Young to Mr. Wingate.

No. 14th February, 1883.

Sir,

I have the honor, as a further reference to your despatch No. 115, to say that your action in causing the return of the cargo boats of Messrs Flodge and Co., meets with the approval of the Legation. It was exceedingly proper on your part, not to accept a settlement, without an expression of regret on the part of the authorities for the unjustifiable acts of their people. I am glad the matter has been arranged, and with due regard for the rights of our people, as well as for our national dignity.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd) Jno. Russell Young

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED.

Acknowledged

No. 652.

Mr. Edwards

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 16th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

Naval movements.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young forwards a despatch shewing the movements of naval vessels &c.

No. 652. Two Enclosures.

Legation of the United States

Peking, 16th February, 1885.

To the

Honorable Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

I enclose for the information of the Department, copies of a correspondence with the Admiral commanding our forces on the Asiatic Station.

I have the honor to be.

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

[signature]

Enclosure.

Enclosures.

1. H. B. M's Consul Hawes to
H. B. M's Minister Sir H. S. Parkes.
Telegram. 11th February, 1885.

2. Mr Young to Admiral Davis
No. 16/1885 16th February, 1885.

Enclosure 1.

Decypher Telegram from Canton

Sent 12.20 p.m. 11th February.

Rec'd 10.18 a.m. 12th " "

American man of war "Alert" leaving on or about 16th February, only British man-of-war Merlin will remain. Municipality complain not adequate to protection of Shamien inopportune moment for reducing strength of protection because of new year and rumour of blockade. Am writing to the Admiral.

(Sgd.) Nance.

Enclosure 2.

No. 16/1885.

Mr. Young to Admiral Davis.

February, 16th, 1885.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of a despatch addressed to H.B.M's Minister, by H.B.M's Consul at Canton. After a conversation with H.E. Sir Harry S. Parkes, it was thought best not to make any recommendations either to yourself or Sir Wm Dowell, as to the disposition of the forces under your respective commands. We concurred in the opinion that everything had been done and would be done, by yourself and the admiral commanding the British

forces

forces, to carry out the stipulations which formed an Inclosure in my despatch No. 92, dated, 23rd November, 1883, and that in the movement of our men of war you would be governed by information, not in the power of the other Legations to give, and do what was best for the protection of every interest intrusted to your care.

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

Enclosures.

H.B.M's Consul to H.B.M's Minister.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED.

Edwards

No. 653 Three enclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, February 16th 1885.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack by No + file.
APR 13 1885

My Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

Subject.

Protection to American citizens in the interior.

Synopsis.

Enclosing copies of a correspondence with the Rev. Mr Stanley of Tientsin

No. 653 Three enclosures.

Legation of the United States.

Peking February 16th 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,

Secretary of State.

Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose for your information, copies of a correspondence with Rev. C.A. Stanley of Tientsin, in reference to the protection of American citizens resident in the interior provinces, engaged in missionary work. As I pointed out in my letter to Rev. Mr Cady which

formed

formed an enclosure to my
No 513 dated September 19th.
the Legations had not
felt justified in asking
the missionaries to
withdraw to the sea-ports
The government had given
us the amplest
assurance of protection
and no one questions the
sincerity of that
declaration. The
missionaries themselves
should be governed by events,
the temper of the people
and the conduct of the
authorities, as to whether
they should leave their
stations. The time has

not

not come when useful advice can be given from Pekin. I may add that no special anxiety is felt by the Legations as to the safety of our people in the inland provinces. Of course we have to consider the fact that we live in a country governed by strange influences, and at the present time swayed by unusual emotions. Some of these conditions, however, exist always in China and must have been duly considered by those who live here, no

matter

matter what their duties. So long as the Legations remain in Peking, where there is absolutely no protection, I see no reason why we should advise our missionary friends to abandon their work in the interior.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Enclosures.
1. Mr Stanley to Mr Young
No. 21/1885 Jan. 21/85
2. Mr Young in reply
No. 9/1885 Jan. 26/85
3. No. 18/1885 Febr 16/85

No. 21/1883. Enclosure.

Mr. Stanley to Mr. Young.

Tientsin, Jan. 20th, 1883.

My dear Mr. Young,

I wish to consult you, either privately or semi-officially as may seem best, in regard to a matter of some considerable importance to our missionaries in Shansi. Without going into particulars, some of the families are so situated that they must leave this spring, or necessarily be detained long into the summer or fall. Two new men for that mission have been here for the winter, hoping to go up early this spring. One is a physician, and in case of the detention of those now there, his services will be required, and he will have to go out, although he need not of course take his family with him. The question is in regard to the Shansi

brethren

brethren coming away soon, or remaining there and taking the risk. There are also English and French or Italian i.e. Romish missionaries in that province, so that it is not a question that involves us alone. Consul Bromley having advised with the other Consuls, and some private citizens advises very strongly that our missionaries there come away this spring, as they believe the French are determined to strike hard somewhere this coming Spring; in which case, they think there is likely to be more or less of disturbance, and unsafety to foreigners in the interior. While in the quiet disposition of the Chinese there, and their apparently favourable disposition toward foreigners, our friends there feel more safe there than they think we are even in this province. Hence I with the new brethren for that mission who are here feel that we ought to get all the advice

we

we can, as well as all the information at our command for our own direction, and send to them for their guidance. Then if they decide to remain, it is in view of full knowledge, and they can blame no one but themselves for any contingencies.—

The question of the new brethren going on, is not of immediate concern, as they cannot go yet, and will wait developments. But in regard to the other question of those who are already there, and what they should do, I should deem it a great favour if you would kindly give me your opinion, so that I may write them if possible by the messenger next Monday.

With regards &c

(Signed) C. A. Stanley.

P

No. 9/1885

Mr Young to Mr Stanley

Jan 26/85

Dear Mr Stanley,

I beg to acknowledge your letter of the 20th and to say that before I send you a definite answer, I should like to consult my colleagues. In the meantime I send you a letter addressed to Mr Cady on the same subject, in August last, which will give you the views of the Legation upon the very important subject you present. I need not say that ever since the beginning of these troubles between France & China, it has received our most serious consideration.

Yours very truly

(Sgd) Jno. Russell Young.

Enclosure

1. Mr Young to Mr Cady.

No. 67/1884 Aug. 22/84

Mr Young to the Rev. Mr Stanley

No 18/1885 Feb. 16/85

My dear Mr Stanley.

As a further reference to my letter dated Jan. 26. I have the honor to say that the question therein propounded, namely, as to whether it would be thought prudent to warn Americans resident in the interior to withdraw to the seaports. because of complications between China and France, has again been discussed. I do not feel at liberty to give such advice, as the question is one that must be governed by the condition

of

of affairs in each locality
where Americans reside.

Yours truly

Wm. Russell Long

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED.

No. 664.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 17th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Acknowledging Department despatches
Nos. 365 - 366. 367.

No. 654.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 17th February, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your despatches No. 365 of December 16, 1884, No. 366 of December 18, 1884 and No. 367 of December 18, 1884, together with their several inclosures.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,

Jno. Russell Young

Mr Thickbroffe

No 655.

Mr Edwards & Mr Trickbroffe

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 13 1885
RECEIVED.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 19th 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State

Subject
Telegraph Account

Synopsis
Examiner statement of
Telegraph Account to date.

No 655. One enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 18th, 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir:—

I have the honor to transmit herewith, a statement of the Telegraph account, of this Legation, up to date, which includes certain messages, sent by me on official business, during my stay in Tientsin, last September and October. I should have included these amounts, in an Earlier account, had it not been that the bills were only recently received by me, from the Chinese

1/655

Chinese Telegraph Office.

I have drawn upon you, in the usual way, to reimburse me for the amount expended, as shown in the account, and trust that my draft will be duly honored upon presentation.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

Thos Rosselly.

Enclosure. Telegram Account as above.

Telegram.

American Legation.
Peking.

Leave for Peking this evening.

Young.

Tientsin. Oct. 8. 1884.

Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Come to Tientsin without
delay, shall await you.
(Sgd.) John Russell Young.

Tientsin.

Telegram.

American Legation

Peking.

Send diplomatic cipher immediately.

Young.

Tientsin. 27 Sept. 1882.

Cypher Telegram.

Frelinghuysen,

Washington.

Two interviews Viceroy Li Hung Chang China inflexibly opposed indemnity, territorial concession - commercial advantages France. Prefers even prolonged war consequences what they may. Willing reaffirm Tientsin treaty basis peace. China however renews her desire for the mediation President, should France propose it. Await answer Tientsin.

Young.

Tientsin, September 27th, 1884

Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Simply discontinue.

Young.

Peking - February 8, 1880.

Telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

Department telegraphs France formally notifies us that war exist and that she will exercise right of war on high seas observing declaration of Paris fifty six as to neutral commerce. We are not asked to proclaim neutrality and we do not notify our ships of risk if carrying contraband. Inform Admiral if not Shanghai by telegraph.

Young.

Peking, February 7th 1885.

Cipher telegram.

Stahel.

Shanghai.

French naval commanders instructed to enforce strict belligerent rights including search neutral vessels high seas. Inform Admiral and all concerned

Yang.

Peking, February 5th 1885.

Cipher Telegram.

American Consul

Amoy.

French naval commanders instructed to enforce strict belligerent rights including search neutral vessels high sea. Inform all concerned.

Young

Peking, February 5th 1885.

Cipher telegram.

American Consul

Canton -

French naval commanders instructed to enforce strict belligerent rights including search neutral vessels high seas.

Inform all concerned.

Young.

Peking, Feby. 5th 1885

Cipher telegram.

Seckendorff.

Swatow.

French naval commanders instructed to enforce strict belligerent rights including search neutral vessels high seas. Inform all concerned.

Young.

Peking, Febry. 5th 1885.

Cipher Telegram.

American Consul.

Foochow.

French naval commanders instructed to enforce strict belligerent rights including search neutral vessels high seas. Inform all concerned.

Young.

Peking, Febry. 5th 1885.

Fortinghuysen.

Washington.

Goldsborough continues
insolent and unsubordinate.
Regret the necessity of
requesting his immediate
suspension.

Young

February 2d 1865.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED.

No. Everett 27

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 23d February, 1885.

Mr. W. W. Rockhill to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.
Duplicate salary account.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 23, 1885.

Hon. Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to forward to you herewith duplicate copies 1/- 2/-
of my salary account, of which I
forwarded the originals in my
despatch of January 24, 1885. I also
forward a duplicate copy of my 3/-
account for loss by exchange on
salary, of which I forwarded a
copy in my despatch of the 2d.
instant.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

W. W. Rockhill

2d Secretary of Legation.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
File
APR 27 1885

No. 656. Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking February 23. 1885.

Mr Jno. Russell Young to
the Department of State.

Subject.

Germans in the Chinese service.

Synopsis.

Enclosing copy of a letter from the Vice-Consul at Tientsin showing the efforts of the Chinese to secure the aid of German officers.

No. 656 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Pekin, February 23. 1885.

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.,

Sir:

I enclose for the information of the Department an extract from a private letter received by the Vice-Consul at Tientsin and forwarded to the Legation. It will have interest, I think, as showing the efforts of the Chinese to secure the aid of German officers to assist in their war against France.

1/65

It is proper that I should say, that the German Legation here and the German Consulate at Tientsin, deny any knowledge of these persons or any responsibility for their acts.

I am Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[redacted]

Enclosure.

1. Copy of extract referred to

Copy. Enclosure.

Extract from a letter, dated

Port Arthur, Jan. 15th, 1885.

* * * *

* * *

* *

*

The "Lo Yuen" took 3 Austrian Cavalry, and 1 Chinese officers over to Shan hai Kuan, and the "Fu yi" took 5 German infantry officers over to the same place in Dec. I hear that in all, Military and Naval 132 were engaged by Li fang pao, and lots of them are down south with the army advancing in Tonquin. Rear Admiral Sibileen, or "Wan li chang"

as

as his Chinese name goes, brought the cruizers up from Shanghai to this place and then took them to Corea, then Admiral Ting tries to get rid of them and sent him up here, but he went back to Corea and took a Herr von Hanneken (a military Engineer who came out when the rest of the "missionaries" came) with him, so as to arrange for a military defence of the Chinese anchorage at Mah San pu. This von Hennings is running opposition to von Hanneken, and has made a new plan for the defence of this port and for the construction of the Steam basin, but it is on too grand and expensive a scale to suit the Chinese or do von Hanneken any harm. —

Schnell,

Schnell, von Hennings, and Sibeleen are all as one and are not very friendly towards von Nanneken. In fact as far as I can see the Germans here with a few exceptions are a rough lot and all at sixes and sevens. There has been lots of trouble already (through drunkenness) on board the cruisers between the Germans and Chinese officers and I hear that Admiral Tsing and the Captains are petitioning the Viceroy against them."

Fr. J. L.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

w/e Encl'd

No. 657 Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.
Peking. February 23. 1885.

Mr. Jno. Russell Young to the Department of State.

Subject.

Mr Consul Seymour.

Synopsis.

Enclosing copy of a memorial from the Americans resident in Canton. Mr Young adds his testimony to the fidelity and ability of Mr Seymour.

No. 657. Enclosure.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, February 23. 1885

Hon. F. T. Frelinghuysen,
Secretary of State,
Washington D.C.

Sir:

I have the honor to enclose a memorial which has been sent to the Legation by our Americans resident in Canton. I am happy to add my testimony to that so properly paid to the fidelity and ability with which Mr Seymour has performed his duties in Canton. He has shown —

1/657

tact

tact, energy and good nature, and has won the confidence of the foreign as well as the Chinese residents. He has taken pains to show to all Americans who visited Canton, a kind and gracious hospitality, and in no particular, so far as the Legation is aware, has he failed to do well every duty appointed to him. I should regard the withdrawal of Mr Seymour from our consular service in China, as an incident much to be regretted.

I am, Sir,

Your

Your obedient servant.

Jas. Cameron Gray.

Enclosure.

1 Copy of the memorial referred to.

COPY OF A MEMORIAL.

To His Excellency,
The President
of the
UNITED STATES;
WASHINGTON D.C.

Sir:

The undersigned, Citizens of the United States, residing in Canton, China, beg leave to present the following petition to Your Excellency.

Though we have no voice in the selection of our Consul, as our fellow-citizens at home have in the selection of many of those who hold office among them, we would respectfully claim a hearing with regard to our preference as to the gentleman who occupies the important office of Consul among us.

A Consul in China is something more than a mere Commercial Agent; as he is the only medium of intercourse between us and the native officials.

In such intercourse, firmness and promptitude are needed; as well as tact and suavity.

Hon Charles Seymour, the present occupant of the office in Canton, has been with us during the trying times which we have gone through, during the past two years of strained relations between the Chinese and all foreigners.

We are happy to bear testimony to the ability, promptness, and courtesy, with which he has conducted affairs; as well as to his personal qualities as a gentleman.

We would, therefore, earnestly request that Mr. Seymour be retained in his present position of United States Consul.

This is the unanimous desire of all the Citizens of the United States residing here, without reference to our political affiliations; as we comprise those whose preferences are with each of the parties in the United States.

For all which your petitioners most respectfully and humbly pray.

Canton, China, January, 1885.

Signed by

Messrs. RUSSELL & Co., Established in 1824.
Rev. A. P. HAPPER, D. D.—American Presbyterian Mission, since 1844; from Pennsylvania.
Rev. R. H. GRAVES, D. D.—American (South) Baptist Mission, since 1854; from Maryland.
Frederic D. Bush, from New York.
Nelson E. Bryant, „ Massachusetts.
Wallace Stebbins, „ Connecticut.
James W. Andrews, „ Massachusetts.
Joseph C. Thomson, „ New York.
C A. Colman, „ California.
Henry V. Noyes, „ Ohio.
W. J. White, „ New York.
E. Z. Simmons, „ Mississippi.
A. A. Fulton, „ Ohio.
F. C. Hickson, „ South Carolina;
AND ALL UNOFFICIAL AMERICAN CITIZENS RESIDING IN CANTON, CHINA.

Similar request was addressed to the Secretary of State, Washington D.C. These petitions, entirely unsolicited, were presented to the Consul by Rev. Dr. Graves, to be forwarded to Washington; and elicited the following.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Dear Dr. GRAVES.

Your kind note of this date, with the memorials of the American residents in Canton, to the President of the United States, and to the Secretary of State, asking that I may be retained here as Consul, came to hand this morning; and for these tokens of friendly regard, please accept for yourself, and convey to others concerned, my thankful acknowledgment. Whether this request of the American residents in Canton shall, or shall not, be granted; I shall ever cherish remembrance of their kindness; and be comforted by a consciousness of having served them and our Government faithfully during trying and eventful times.

Very Respectfully Yours,

CHARLES SEYMOUR.

United States Consulate, Canton, January, 13th 1885.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Everett
28. 16

No. 658. Two Inclosures.

See Dr Wharton's Rep. No. 36 ap. 29. 85

Legation of the United States,

Peking, 23d February, 1885.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Acting to Chargé Smithers, sending him copy of Dr Wharton's Report
MAY 2 1885
4 May 85 Everett

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

PRINTED
FOREIGN RELATIONS
1885

Subject.

A question of citizenship.

Synopsis.

Right of a son of an American citizen born in China of a Chinese mother to claim American citizenship. The Consul at Canton instructed to recognize this right.

No. 658. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 23d February, 1885.

The Honorable
Fredk T. Frelinghuysen
Secretary of State,
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

A question has arisen in Canton as to the right of a son of an American citizen born in China of a Chinese mother to claim American citizenship. I have instructed the Consul, that under Section 1993 of the Revised Statutes, he must recognize this right, unless it can be shewn that the claimant has sought naturalization from another power.

These

These questions are awkward, as in most cases the claims are made by people whom it is not desirable to have under our protection. At the same time, the law seems clear, and I do not see how it can be avoided.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

[signature]

Inclosures.

1. Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young - No. 101.
January 24. 1885.

2. Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour. No. 126.
February 23. 1885.

No. 101. No. 658. Enclosure 1.

Mr. Seymour to Mr. Young.

Canton, January, 24th, 1885.

Sir,

I have the honour to present a case, involving the question of citizenship, in respect to which it is desirable to have clear and definite instructions.

An American citizen, native of the United States of America, named Frederick Pearson, lived many years in China, and did business at and around Shanghai, where he died 14th June, 1868, leaving children by a Chinese woman, to whom he was married by Reverend Father Desagque,

Desaggue, as per records of the Roman Catholic Church.

A son of Frederick Pearson, born at Shanghai, August, 26th, 1854, named John Frederick Pearson, was baptized by the same priest and now lives in Canton.

The question as to whether this son was, or was not, born in wedlock, is not satisfactorily settled, but if the decision as to American citizenship hinges upon that point, care will be observed in arriving at the facts as to whether the marriage of the parents occurred previous or subsequent to the birth of the son; whose appearance favours the impression that his age is correctly

stated

stated at about thirty years.

This young man, who wears the garb, cue, and outfit, of a native of China, with the name of "Whey Ting", seems thoroughly determined to maintain all the peculiarities and characteristics of a Chinese subject, but at the same time, (evidently to have recourse to Consular aid and influence in pushing his schemes, when resisted by Chinamen,) seems desirous of having registration at American Consulates where he may require assistance.

This man "Whey Ting" asked for registration at this Consulate, as the son of an American citizen, during the past week, for the

declared

declared and obvious purpose of assisting him to evict occupants of a building and premises to which he claims title, and to obtain possession of the property, for which the occupants refuse to pay rent.

The value of the property is stated at about thirteen hundred dollars; and cost eight hundred dollars; the rent agreed upon a many years ago was (ten Taels) Equivalent to about Fifteen dollars, per month - 50 taels paid in advance.

Upon examination of his title papers, there is no evidence of his ownership; as the deed runs in favour of one - "Chang Ah See", whom "Whey Ting" - claims as his wife's aunt - she - having

having supplied a portion of the purchase money; and he being her heir; as he alleges, without substantiating his statements.

Consequently, I declined to take up his case, as the claim of an American citizen; in the absence of any evidence that he was born in wedlock; or that he is the owner of the property, to which, through the aid of this Consulate, he desires to obtain possession.

Furthermore, while invoking Consular assistance of this nature, he objected to a full and frank statement of his parentage to the Chinese authorities, evidently to avoid incurring the risk of

subjecting

subjecting himself to the restraints or restrictions to which foreigners, or citizens of the United States, are subject in China.

In order to more fully understand the peculiarities of this case, it should be known that the father, Frederick Pearson, who was well known in business circles in China, sent his son, John Frederick Pearson, alias "Pheu Ling", when young, to the United States of America, for an English Education; and, besides four years of schooling and residence in Massachusetts; the son was two years in England; previous to A.D. 1878, the year in which he claims to have acquired an interest in the property

mentioned

mentioned.

He speaks and writes the English language as accurately as an educated Englishman or American. Both in respect to pronunciation and grammar, as well as to orthography, in the use of the English language, his precision is faultless.

By further reference to his written statement it appears the name of his relative, who supplies three hundred dollars of the purchase money for the property in 1878, is "Seng Woo Ling"; which does not agree with the name given in the deed; but "Whey Ling" (alias Pearson) claims he paid $800.- of the $800.- purchase money; and that no rent has been paid

since

since the first payment of 50 taels already mentioned. So there is — nothing clear about the title to the property being vested in the claimant; respecting whom the American Firm of Messrs. Russell Bro., have from — their knowledge of him, advised caution. Apart from the property title deeds, the question of registration as an American citizen should be settled. And this brings us to the consideration of section 1993 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, and its application to "Whey Ting," (alias Pearson), who may, perhaps, like other Chinamen, have a variety of names.

This Section declares "all "children

"children heretofore born or
"hereafter born out of the United
"States, whose fathers were or may
"be at the time of their birth citizens
"thereof, are declared to be citizens
"of the United States."

Under this section "Wheyling"
(alias Pearson) claims registration,
and the aid of the United States
Consulate as to his property. I
respectfully submit that the
language of that Section 1993 is
too full or loose, to admit of
proper restrictions; such as may
be necessary in cases similar
to the one under consideration;
and especially in regard to
children of American fathers, born

out

born out of wedlock, or previous to the marriage of the parents; and also in regard to children who practically ignore all the obligations that rest upon native or naturalized citizens of the United States; and become thoroughly identified with the life, habits, customs, laws, and requirements and privileges, of the subjects of China and other countries of Asia; with entire abandonment of every characteristic of an American citizen.

In my investigation of facts touching the case of "Whey Ting" (alias Pearsem), it appeared that during a portion of his absence from China, since 1878, until

his

his recent return here, he has resided at Bangkok, Siam; at which place, on December, 19th 1879, David B. Sickles, U.S. Consul, gave him provisional protection; and that in despatch number 135, dated January, 3rd, 1880, Consul Sickles reported his action in the case to the Department of State; and that in despatch No. 66, under date of March, 24th, 1880 - Hon. - Charles Payson, then Third Asst Secretary of State, approved of Consul Sickles action; the precise particulars of which are not disclosed, except verbally, through "Whey Ting", (alias Pearson.

Respectfully submitting the

Entire

entire question of citizenship of "Whey Ting" (alias John Frederick Pearson) to your consideration, by the light of all the facts within my reach; and hoping it may lead to a clear understanding of the rights of all persons similarly concerned

I am Sir

(Signed) Charles Seymour

U. S. Consul.

No. 126. No. 658. Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Seymour.

23rd February, 1885.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch No. 101, dated Jan. 26th, 1885, I have the honour to say, that the question you there present has receid careful consideration. The Statute you quote is clear, as to the intent of the law, namely, that the children of American citizens, born abroad, share the nationality of their fathers, unless they accept naturalization from another power. The right is inherent, and so long as the holder maintains it, we cannot take it from him. To do so, would be

be virtual outlawry. The case, as you present it, in my opinion rests largely upon evidence, and that of course you are in a position to obtain. If it should appear:-

I. That Rearsen's father was an American, who had not renounced his nationality.

II. That Rearsen himself had not accepted naturalization from another power.

I do not see how we can deprive him of his citizenship.

A question of the same kind has arisen at Amoy. The Consul at Amoy, reported to the Legation, that a resident at that port was the son of a negro who had been born in Maine.

The

The resident had never been in the United States; but was a native of Singapore, if I remember. He had been registered in 1861, had been tried for an infraction of our laws, by an American Consul and American assessors, found guilty and imprisoned for a year. The Consul at Amoy held, however, that as the Dred Scott decision, before the war, had deprived negroes of their rights as citizens, and as the person in question had not been in the United States, since the war, had in fact, never been there, he rested under the ban of that decree. I found it impossible to accept this view of the law, and the same difficulty was shared by the Department,

Department, which approved my action. In that case, as in yours, the question is a matter of evidence. The Consul at Amoy may be able to ascertain that the claim of American parentage is unfounded, and that when he told the Legation that the father was born in Maine, he was not correctly informed. I think he is giving a good deal of time to the inquiry, but with what result remains to be seen.

If the Consul at Amoy had given his attention to the evidence instead of confirming the Dred Scott decision, his case might now have been determined. My advice in Pearsen's case, would be to look well into the

the evidence. I am not anxious to have every adventurer, who wishes to use the Consulate for purposes of gain or revenge, a citizen of the United States. I should when any such claim is advanced take the utmost pains to ascertain the facts. I should throw upon the applicant the burden of satisfying every doubt that might arise in your mind, as to the validity of his claim. All doubts removed, the law leaves you no option. In the case at Amoy, the Consul held, and holds that the bad character of the claimant, made it undesirable that he should be a citizen. I should assent to that as a moral precept, but, in unfortunately

unfortunately character is not an issue.

As to the question you suggest, namely how far the fact of a child being born out of wedlock, may affect his nationality, I speak somewhat with reserve. But my opinion is, that the misfortune of an illegitimate birth cannot deprive a man of his nationality. It may interfere with rights of property and inheritance, but citizenship remains with him. He is a part of society. The laws are made for the protection of society. He must submit to them, and submission involves protection.

As I have said the question in Pearsen's case, is one of

Evidence

evidence. The law is clear. If after due examination you find the fact to be as you present them - in my judgment, I do not see - how, under Section 1993 of the - Revised Statutes, you can refuse to regard Pearson as an - American citizen. -

I am &c

(Signed) John Russell Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

Mr Everett
28.15

No. 659. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 23d February, 1885.

3RD ASSISTANT SECRETARY
Ack by Mail & file
APR 28 1885

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Protection of Japanese subjects by
the American government.

Synopsis.

Japanese tea-house at Chinkoing closed
by Chinese authorities without knowledge
of American Consul. Action of Mr.
Consul Smithers.

No. 659. Two Inclosures.

Legation of the United States,

Peking, February 23, 1885.

The Honorable

Fred.k T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Washington. D.C.

Sir,

In my despatch No. 565, I enclosed to the Department a correspondence with the Japanese minister, in regard to the protection of Japanese subjects by the American government. An incident arising out of this question has arisen at Chinkiang, as will appear in several enclosures. The Chinese authorities closed a Japanese tea-house without the knowledge or consent of the American Consul,

who had been charged with the care of Japanese interests. The Taotai claimed this right under the special provisions of a treaty between China and Japan. Mr. Smithers held, however, that in another article of the same convention, it was agreed that the Chinese or Japanese governments "were at liberty to ask consuls of friendly nations, with which they have treaty relations, to act on their behalf." The Taotai, as will be seen, accepts this view.

I have approved the action of Mr. Smithers, and trust, that in doing so, I shall have the approval of the Department.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant.

Inclosures. Geo. Rutledge Young

1. Mr. Smithers to Mr. Young. No. 82. Jan. 30. 1885.
2. Mr. Young to Mr. Smithers. No. 70. Febry. 23. 1885.

No. 82. No. 659. Enclosure 1.

Mr. Smithers to Mr. Young.

January, 30th, 1885.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 68. of the 29th ult., and in compliance with your request, herewith enclose a copy of my letter to the Taotai of November 21st, with translation together with a copy of the Taotai's reply, also with a translation. As there were other letters, relating to the same subject, I have deemed it my duty to enclose them. You will perceive, that in the first instance, the

the Taotai was of the opinion, that the Chinese Authorities alone, had jurisdiction over Japanese subjects resident here, in the absence of a Consul for that Government. In the Taotai's letter, No. 4. he very gracefully withdraws from that position.

I have &c

(signed) E. J. Smithers.

Consul.

— Enclosures —

No. 1. Mr. Smithers to Taotai

2. Taotai to Mr. Smithers.

3. Mr. Smithers to Taotai.

4. Taotai to Mr. Smithers.

Mr. Smithers to Taotai. — No. 1.

November 21st, 1867.

Some days since a Japanese together with his family came to this port, and leased a building at the Sz'au-ma-lou and opened a Tea house; there being no Japanese Consul at this port, it devolved upon me to act for him, and I have now to bring to the notice of the Taotai — that the Police from the Magistrate's Office, closed the said building by — pasting an injunction paper across the door. Not being consulted in the — matter, I have no knowledge of the cause which led to this act of the Police. —

I have therefore to ask the Hon. Taotai for information on the

Subject

Subject.

(Consul Smither's card enclosed)

Taotai to Mr Smithers. No. 2.

December, 1st, 1884.

In reply to the Consul's despatch having reference to the Japanese Sea house (despatch quoted in part).

On looking over the Japanese treaty, wherever there is at an open port any Japanese engaged in business it becomes the duty of the local officials to exercise authority over them.

Referring to the Consul's letter, the Taotai finds, that the building leased by the Japanese, is not in the foreign Settlement. In such a case, it was the duty of the Japanese to make known to the Magistrate the business he intended to carry on. A few days since, the Magistrate together with the Commiss.

of

of Criminal Police, reported to the Taotai, that a Chinese subject had leased a building to a Japanese, that the Japanese had falsely represented that he wished to open a Tea-house, but instead of that, it appears that there were women kept there, and that the Chinese frequented the house for the purpose of dissipation, and that anything but a legitimate business was carried on there.

In consequence of this, the Magistrate had, pending investigation, ordered the doors to be closed. The Taotai has now directed that the owner of the building be arrested, and examined, and that the Magistrate report the result to the Taotai. —

(Taotai's card enclosed)

Mr. Smithers to Taotai No. 3.

December, 4th, 1884.-

The Consul is in receipt of the Taotai's despatch dated the 1st Dec.: (Taotai's despatch quoted in part.).-

The Consul finds in the 9th Article of the Japanese treaty the quotation as made by the Taotai to be correct, but nowhere in the said treaty is it stated that the Japanese Government is not at liberty to ask the good offices of a Consul of a friendly nation.-

At all the open ports this has been the rule. The Consul has now to call the attention of the Taotai to the 16th Art. of the Japanese treaty which provides that the Imperial Chinese and Japanese Govern'ts are at liberty to ask Consuls of friendly nations with which they have treaty relations to act on their behalf.-

If

If the Taotai wishes it to be understood that the Japanese Govern^t have not the right to ask the American Consul at this port to act for their subjects then the Taotai's view in the Consul's opinion is at variance with the aforesaid Treaty, and as the subject entirely concerns the Japanese and Chinese Govern^ts it will remain for the Consul to communicate with the Japanese Consul General.

Your letter further states that the Japanese referred to are not engaged in a legitimate business.

Previous to the receipt of the Taotai's despatch the same information has been rec'd by the Consul and the Japanese has been advised to return to Shanghai. —

(Consul Smither's card Enclosed)

Taotai to Consul Smithers No. 4.

December, 6th, 1884.

In reply to the Consuls despatch having reference to a Japanese occupying a building at Siau ma tow (despatch quoted in part).

The Taotais former despatch, was based upon a report rec'd from the Magistrate and Commiss. of Criminal Police, stating, that the business carried on was not legitimate, and that he closed the doors pending an investigation. The Taotai does not think that the action of the Magistrate was very much at variance with the spirit of the Treaty, but the Taotai does not wish the Consul to understand, that he is of the opinion (Taotai) that the Consul cannot act for the Japanese Govern't. The Consul's despatch,

stating

stating, that he had heard that the business carried on at the house referred to was not legitimate; and that he had advised the occupant to return to Shanghai; shows that the Consul is desirous of so doing what is just and proper, and this gives the Taotai great satisfaction.

(Taotai's card Inclosed)

No. 659. Enclosure 2.

Mr. Young to Mr. Smithers.

No. 70. February 23, 1885.

Sir,

As a further reference to your despatch No. 82, I have the honor to say, that I have read with care your correspondence with the Taotai, in regard to your right to protect Japanese subjects. Your views of the treaty stipulations, meets with the approval of the Legation, and will, I have no doubt, be accepted by the Department.

I am, &c.,

(Sgd) Jno. Russell Young.

Telegram. Cipher.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 25, 1885.

Frelinghuysen,
Washington.

French Ministry declares rice contraband war. This very important port coast carrying trade. Shall I protest.

Young.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
FEB 26 1885
RECEIVED.

Telegram. Cipher.

Copy to Mr. Young March 11 85 cipher

Legation of the U.S.
Peking, Feby 26, 1885.

Frelinghuysen
Washington.

American interests Shanghai content rice declared contraband, fearing otherwise blockade ports which would be extremely detrimental.

Young.

Ack. by Mr Fish

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

No. 660.

Mr Everett 27.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 26th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Confirming telegram of this date.

No. 660.

Legation of the United States
Peking, 26th February, 1885.

The Honorable
Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to confirm as follows the telegraphic despatch which I sent you this day:

"Frelinghuysen.
Washington.
American interests Shanghai
content rice declared contraband
fearing otherwise blockade
ports which would be extremely
detrimental.

detrimental."

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Thos. Amos Ewing.

file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED.

Mr Everett 27

No 661. One Enclosure.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, February 26th 1885.

W. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject

Passports

Synopsis

Transmitting Return of Passports for the year 1884.

113

No 661.

Legation of the United States.
Peking, February 26th 1885.

Hon: F. T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington, D.C.

Sir:—

Enclosed I have the honor to submit, an abstract of the passports,- forty three in number, issued from this Legation during the year 1884. 1/661

The fees collected therefor,- $215.00 in amount, will be credited to the Government, in my Contingent Expenses Account for the current quarter.

I have the honor to be,
Sir,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Geo. Russell Gray.

Enclosure.

Return of Passports for the year 1884.

Return of Passports issued

Legation of the United States
Peking, February 26th 1885

during the year 1884. Continued.

&c. &c. &c.

[redacted]
United States Minister

during the year 1884.

Height	Eyes	Nose	Hair	Face	Complexion
5. 11	Brown	Roman	Brown	Oval	Fair
5. 5½	Blue	Straight	Light	"	Florid
5. 11½	"	Medium	Dark	Round	Light
5. 10	"	Straight	Brown	Long	Fair
5. 9	Grey	Large	Light	Oval	"
5. 7½	Blue	Straight	Brown	Long	Light
5. 1	Brown	"	Black	Oval	Dark
5. 9	Grey	Aquiline	Grey	"	Light
5. 10	Blue	Medium	Brown	Full	Fair
5. 10	"	Ordinary	"	Oval	Florid
5. 9	"	Grecian	"	Round	Fair
5. 5	Black	Prominent	Black	Ordinary	Dark
5. 7½	Hazel	Roman	Dark brown	Medium	"
5. 10	Blue	Straight	Grey	Full	Fair
6. ½	Grey	"	Dark	Long	Light
5. 8	"	Roman	Black grey	"	"
5. 6	Hazel	Straight	Light brown	Medium	"
5. 9½	Brown	Large	Black	Long	"
5. 9½	Blue	Straight	Brown	"	"
5. 10	Dark brown	Ordinary	Black grey	Oval	"
5. 8	Blue	Prominent	Brown grey	Long	"
5. 11	"	Roman	Black	Full	Dark

during the year 1884. Continued.

Height	Eyes	Nose	Hair	Face	Complexion.
5. 9 1/2	Dark brown	Roman	Light brown	Oval	Fair
5.9	Brown	Prominent	Light	Long	Light
5. 10 1/2	Blue	Large	"	"	"
5.9	Dark	Prominent	Brown	Oval	Fair
5.9	Blue	Long	"	Full	Florid
5.6	"	Large	Light & Grey	Round & Full	Light
5. 10 1/2	Dark brown	"	Dark turning grey	Long	Dark
5. 7 1/2	" "	Straight	Dark	Ordinary	"
5. 4	Grey	"	Light brown	Oval	Fair
5. 10 1/2	"	Medium	Dark	Long	Dark
5. 10 1/2	Light	"	Red	Oval	Fair
6.	Brown	Straight	Dark brown	Full	Medium dark
5. 10	Light	Aquiline	Brown	Oval	Light
5. 5	Grey	do	do	Thin	Fair
5. 10	Brown	Straight	do	Broad	Red
5. 11	"	"	Dark	Medium	Dark
5. 7	Blue	Prominent	Brown	Oval	Fair
6.	Grey	Light	Black	Medium	Dark
5. 9	Blue	Prominent	Brown	Oval	Dark

Total 43 Passports at $5-

Each = $215.

Returns of Passports issued

No	Names	Date	State or Country	Age
425	Frank S. Lamunth (2 ports)	October 8		26
426	Stephen A. Hamlin (& family)	" "		32
427	Charles S Lenny	" "		27
428	Jonathan J Hurd	" "		34
429	John Murray	" "		38
393	Josiah R Goddard	" 18		44
394	George L Thaton	" 23		36
395	H. H. Winn	" 24		44
396	Charles Ashton Coleman	" 27		30
451	J Murry	" 29		47
452	J. W. Lotwiz	" "		28
430	Hadam P Bach (2 ports)	November 5		30
397	Frank T Mills	" 11		31
398	J H. Judson	" "		31
399	H B. Endicott	" 18		39
441	H. T. Noyes	December 8		48
442	R H. Graves	" "		51
443	E J. Simmons	" "		37
444	* J. L. Kirkton	" "		
445	J H. Hanton	" "		31
412	* J. M. Nelson.			

These passports remained in blank. The personal descriptions of the applicants have not been received from the Canton Consul. They will be sent later.

661 716 No 13.

Return of Passports issued.

	Name	Date	State or Country	Age
371	F. M. Matheson	February 7		24
384	Mark Williams	" 13		48
363	Henry M. Woods	" 20		26
364	L. F. Fulton (+ wife)	" 21		32
385	William S. Sweet	March 13		34
367	C. W. Pruit	" 24		27
345	L. Estille Akers	April 14		28
365	L. C. Gilick	" 18		56
373	John E Coates	" 21		52
391	Martin L Stinson	May 8		27
374	W. O. White	" 16		33
375	M. J. C. Edwards	" 27		46
376	J Rosenbaum	July 30		46
377	John Thorn	August 16		54
392	Franklin M Chapin	" 30		31
378	Horace Jenkins	September 1		51
379	J. W. B. Smith	" 2		30
408	J. K. Pike	" 6		39
409	W. I. Kobat	" "		28
380	C L. Gorham	" 17		38
381	C. L. Thornton	" 19		50
382	D. L. Anderson	" 20		34

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

No. 662.

Mr Lowell 27

Legation of the United States.
Peking, 27th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the Secretary of State.

Subject.

New Year's Day in Peking.

Synopsis.

Mr. Young refers to a visit paid by the Diplomatic Body to His Imperial Highness, the Prince of Ching and Ministers of the Tsungli Yamên on the occasion of the Chinese New Year.

No 662.

Legation of the United States.

Peking, 24th February, 1885.

To the

Honourable Frederick T. Frelinghuysen.

Secretary of State.

Sir,

On the 23rd of this month, the Foreign Ministers visited the Tsung-li-yamên, to pay their respects to the Prince, and the high officials on the occasion of the Chinese New Year. All the Legations, now in Peking were represented. There was

a

a profuse entertainment in the Chinese style, and the Prince was surrounded by the high officials of the Empire to the number of forty. His Imperial Highness in conversing with myself and my colleagues was gracious and cordial dwelling with satisfaction upon the good relations existing between China and the Governments we represent. The absence of Mr. von Brandt devolved upon me the duty of expressing our sentiments. I said:-

"Your Imperial Highness,

"It is a gratification to the members of the

"Diplomatic

"Diplomatic Body to be again with
"you and the Ministers of the Tsungli
"Yamên, and to wish you every
"felicity that can attend the New
"Year. We are pleased to feel that
"the relations between China and
"the Governments we represent, have
"been, during the year which has
"closed, of the most cordial nature.
"I know I speak the wishes of my
"Colleagues, when I express the hope
"that these friendly relations may
"never be disturbed. In conveying
"this sentiment to Your Imperial
"Highness, I beg to propose the
"health of His Imperial Majesty,
"the Emperor of China."

This was translated by Mr.
Cheshire.

Theshire, and the Prince replied by a renewed expression of his satisfaction that the relations between China and the Powers we represented were of a friendly nature.

I was accompanied by Mr. Bromley our Consul at Tientsin, who happens to be on a visit to the Capital.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Thomas Wade

file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 27 1885
RECEIVED

No. 663.

Mr Evarts 27

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 28th February, 1885.

Mr. John Russell Young to the
Secretary of State.

Subject.

Confirming Department telegraphic
despatch of the 26th instant.

No. 663.

Legation of the United States,
Peking, 28th February, 1885.

The Honorable
Fred'k T. Frelinghuysen.
Secretary of State.
Washington. D.C.

Sir,

I have the honor to confirm as follows your telegraphic despatch of the 26th instant:

"Young - Minister.
Peking.

"Rice only contraband when bound North of Canton. We reserve question as to foreign rice going to China in our ships.

(Sgd)

(Sgd) Frelinghuysen.

I have the honor to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Th. Frelinghuysen.

END